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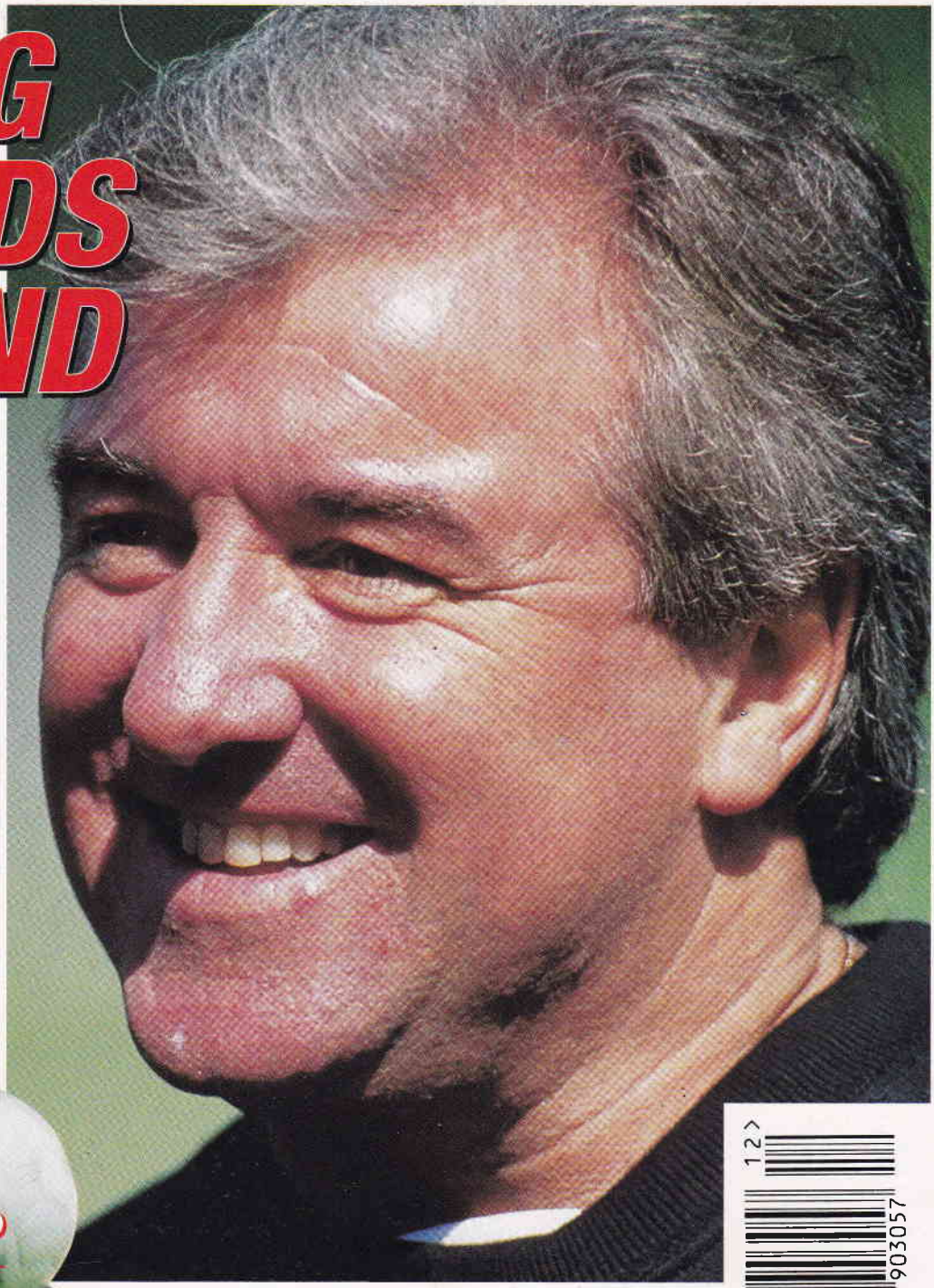

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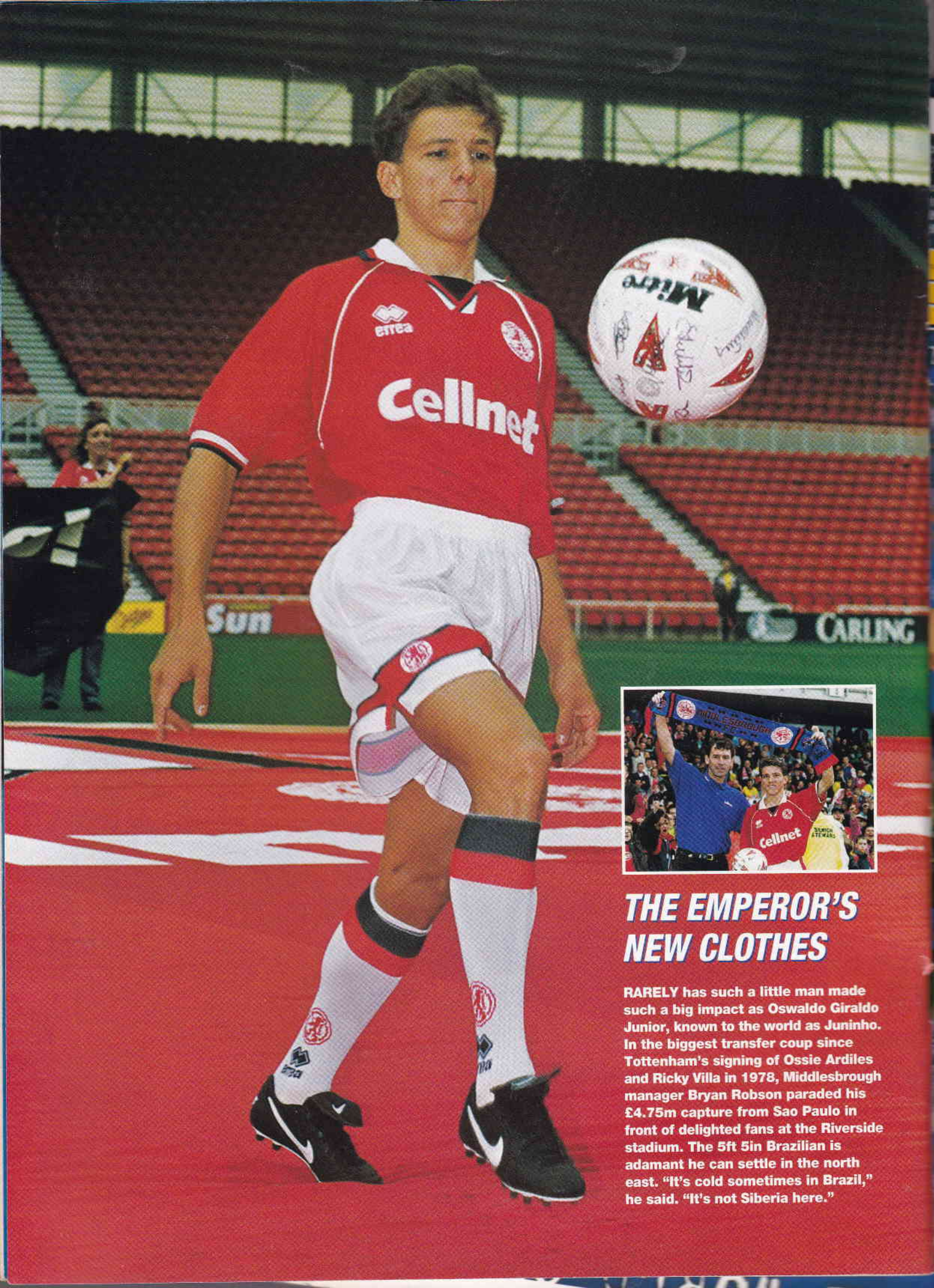

THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES

RARELY has such a little man made such a big impact as Oswaldo Giraldo Junior, known to the world as Juninho. In the biggest transfer coup since Tottenham's signing of Ossie Ardiles and Ricky Villa in 1978, Middlesbrough manager Bryan Robson paraded his £4.75m capture from Sao Paulo in front of delighted fans at the Riverside stadium. The 5ft 5in Brazilian is adamant he can settle in the north east. "It's cold sometimes in Brazil," he said. "It's not Siberia here."

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The long and winding road

Gavin Hamilton on an exciting if somewhat confusing climax to the Euro '96 qualifying campaign

THE 1996 European Championship finals are a matter of months away. Yet with just one round of qualifying games to play, only three teams are certain of qualification: England, the hosts, Spain, winners of Group 2, and Russia, winners of Group 8.

UEFA's complicated qualification system *(see opposite)* means that the full list of qualifiers can only be drawn up when all the ties have been completed. Nearly all the games on November 15, including those between countries with no chance of qualifying, will have some bearing on who arrives in England next June and who stays at home.

A quick glance at the current second-placed table indicates that goal difference is likely to prove vital in deciding who has to play-off, at Anfield on December 13, for the final qualifying place. So the results which decide third and fourth places could ultimately prove as important as those which determine first and second place!

There are three groups, 4, 5 & 6, where three countries still have a chance of qualifying. Norway, the Czech Republic and Holland all still have hopes of winning Group 5, while Portugal, the Republic of Ireland and Austria are all in with a shout in Group 6. Croatia and Italy have been the front-runners in Group 4, although technically Lithuania could still overtake Italy.

The real battle is between the second-placed teams to avoid the Anfield play-off. There are 16 teams who could finish second in their respective groups. In theory, any two could feature in the play-off. But we won't know which two until all the games have been played. It's that close.

Romania and France are still to resolve their differences at the top of Group 1; Germany and Bulgaria meet in what is effectively a play-off for first place in Group 7; and a win for Turkey in Sweden will pip Switzerland to first place in Group 3. Croatia, for so long the runaway leaders in Group 4, are still not certain of qualification and must win their final game to be certain of their place in the finals. Spain and Russia have qualified as winners

Big names who have fallen by the wayside so far include Belgium and Sweden, who cannot now qualify. The biggest casualty of the final round of qualifiers could be Holland. They must beat Norway, who have conceded just three goals so far, to be in with a chance. An even more spectacular victim could be Italy. Arrigo Sacchi's side currently have one point more than Lithuania, their opponents in the final group match.

Many people have had difficulty understanding the qualification system – and with good reason. The most important point to make is that when two teams are level on points in the overall group standings, they are separated by their head-to head records – *i.e* how they fared against each other – on points firstly, then goal difference and away goals.

Only if they cannot be separated then is overall goal difference taken into account. The only case where this is likely to be needed is if Turkey beat Sweden to go level on points with Switzerland in Group 3.

That the top six second-placed teams are decided by results against first, third and fourth-placed teams begs the question: why were the bottom-placed teams included in the groups in the first place?

The lowest-ranked countries may have to pre-qualify for the next finals in Holland and Belgium in 2000. However, UEFA is already planning to use the current system for the 1998 World Cup qualifiers. So, just as we've calculated who's made it to England in 1996, we'll have to start all over again for France in 1998 . . .

Lisbon looming . . . Republic of Ireland striker John Aldridge will come face to face with Portugal defender Jorge Costa in Lisbon

Split decision . . . Croatia's Boban and Boksic (right) thwart Italy's Apolloni during the 1-1 Group 4 draw in Split

Group-by-group analysis of the Euro '96 qualifiers . . . WORLD SOCCER'S at-a-glance guide to the final fight

GROUP 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Romania	9	5	3	1	16	8	18
France	9	4	5	0	20	2	17
Slovakia	9	4	2	3	14	16	14
Israel	9	3	3	3	13	11	12
Poland	9	3	3	3	14	12	12
Azerbaijan	9	0	0	9	2	29	0

4-team record (Romania/France/Slovakia/Israel)

Romania	*5*	*2*	*2*	*1*	*7*	*7*	*8*
France	*5*	*2*	*3*	*0*	*7*	*1*	*9*

TO PLAY

15.11.95: SLOVAKIA-ROMANIA
15.11.95: AZERBAIJAN-POLAND
15.11.95: FRANCE-ISRAEL

Gallic glee . . . Vincent Guerin celebrates France's win against Romania

France and Romania are assured of the top two positions, but the Romanians need to win in Slovakia to be sure of top place. France are guaranteed at least second place because their head-to-head record with Slovakia is superior. If France and Romania finish level on points, the French will be group winners because their head-to-head points record against Romania is better.

Group standings are complicated by Slovakia, Israel and Poland, however. Any of these three could still finish in third and fourth place and this would affect France's four-team record. Their record against Romania, Slovakia and Israel is nine points from five games (one to play, against Israel), but 10 from six against Romania, Slovakia and Poland.

The worst scenario for France would be if Romania beat Slovakia, Poland beat Azerbaijan and Israel beat France, putting Israel third and Poland fourth. The French would still finish second, but their four-team record would be just seven points from six games, leaving France facing a likely play-off.

GROUP 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain	9	7	2	0	22	4	23
Denmark	9	5	3	1	16	8	18
Belgium	9	4	2	3	16	12	14
Macedonia	9	1	4	4	9	15	7
Cyprus	9	1	3	5	5	19	6
Armenia	9	1	2	6	4	14	5

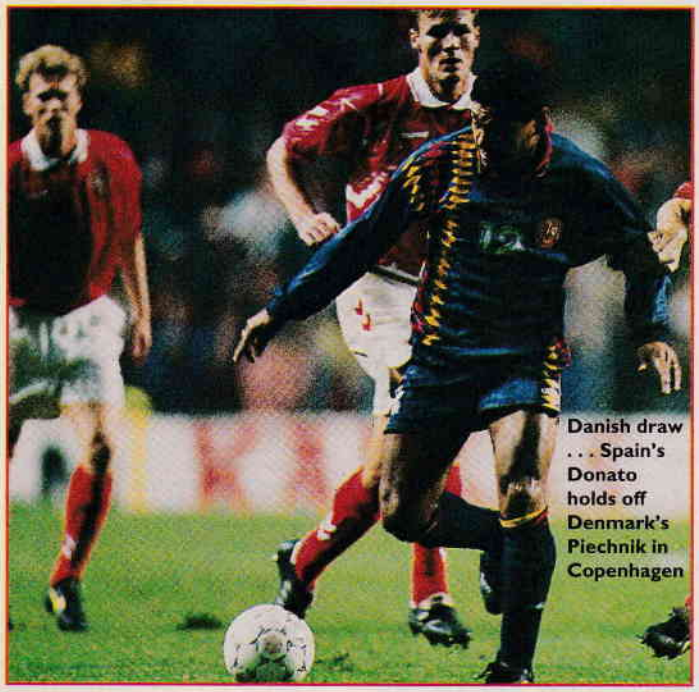
4-team record (Spain/Denmark/Belgium/Macedonia)

Denmark	*6*	*3*	*2*	*1*	*9*	*7*	*11*

TO PLAY

15.11.95: SPAIN-MACEDONIA
15.11.95: CYPRUS-BELGIUM
15.11.95: DENMARK-ARMENIA

Spain are one of just two countries assured of qualification as group winners. Denmark are guaranteed the runners-up spot. The Danes' four-team record against Spain, Belgium and Macedonia is 11 from six games, as it will be even if Cyprus finish fourth.



Danish draw . . . Spain's Donato holds off Denmark's Piechnik in Copenhagen

GROUP 3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Switzerland	8	5	2	1	15	7	17
Turkey	7	4	2	1	14	6	14
Sweden	7	2	2	3	7	8	8
Iceland	7	1	2	4	3	11	5
Hungary	7	1	2	4	6	13	5

4-team record (Switzerland/Turkey/Sweden/Iceland)

Switzerland	*6*	*4*	*1*	*1*	*10*	*5*	*13*
Turkey	*5*	*3*	*1*	*1*	*10*	*4*	*10*

TO PLAY

11.11.95: HUNGARY-ICELAND
15.11.95: SWEDEN-TURKEY

Despite Roy Hodgson's move to Italy, Switzerland have not qualified – yet. If Turkey win in Sweden, they win the group. Their head-to-head record with Switzerland is very tight. They have identical points, goal difference and away goals in matches between the two. However, if Turkey beat Sweden, they will have a superior overall goal difference.

Again the results of the lower-placed teams could be vital to whoever finishes second. Turkey would be unaffected if Hungary finish in fourth place but Switzerland would have 11 points from six games against Turkey, Sweden and Hungary.

THE QUALIFICATION SYSTEM

HOSTS England and the eight group winners qualify automatically for Euro '96. They will be joined by the six best-placed runners-up.

These will be the six runners-up with the best records against the first, third and fourth placed teams in their respective groups.

The seventh and eighth-placed runners-up will play off for the final place in a one-off match at Anfield on Wednesday December 13.

Points determine the final placings in the full groups. Where teams finish level on points, the following factors determine group positions – *in this order:*

1) Number of points in matches between the two teams.

2) Goal difference in the matches between the two teams.

3) Away goals in the matches between the two teams.

4) Results of all qualifying matches: *a)* goal difference. *b)* goals scored. *c)* away goals.

5) Fair play.

The second-placed teams will be separated by the following criteria:

1) Number of points in matches in question.

2) Goal difference.

3) Goals scored.

4) Away goals.

5) Fair play.

On the current standings, this is how the second-placed teams compare:

Scotland	*6*	*3*	*2*	*1*	*5*	*2*	*11*
Denmark	*6*	*3*	*2*	*1*	*9*	*7*	*11*
Turkey	*5*	*3*	*1*	*1*	*10*	*4*	*10*
Germany	*5*	*3*	*1*	*1*	*11*	*6*	*10*
France	*5*	*2*	*3*	*0*	*7*	*1*	*9*
Czech Rep	*5*	*2*	*2*	*1*	*6*	*3*	*8*
Italy	***4***	***2***	***1***	***1***	***5***	***3***	***7***
Rep. Ireland	***5***	***2***	***1***	***2***	***8***	***7***	***7***

So Italy would face the Republic of Ireland in the Anfield play-off. However, of the above eight, only Scotland and Denmark are guaranteed second place.

So the final second-place table could look drastically different.

The draw for the finals will be made in Birmingham on December 17.

GROUP 4

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Croatia	9	6	2	1	20	4	20
Italy	8	5	2	1	13	5	17
Lithuania	9	5	1	3	13	8	16
Ukraine	9	4	1	4	10	12	13
Slovenia	9	3	2	4	12	11	11
Estonia	10	0	0	10	2	31	0

4-team record (Croatia/Italy/Lithuania/Ukraine)

Croatia	*6*	*3*	*2*	*1*	*9*	*3*	*11*
Italy	*4*	*2*	*1*	*1*	*5*	*3*	*7*
Lithuania	*5*	*1*	*1*	*3*	*3*	*6*	*4*

TO PLAY

11.11.95: ITALY-UKRAINE
15.11.95: SLOVENIA-CROATIA
15.11.95: ITALY-LITHUANIA

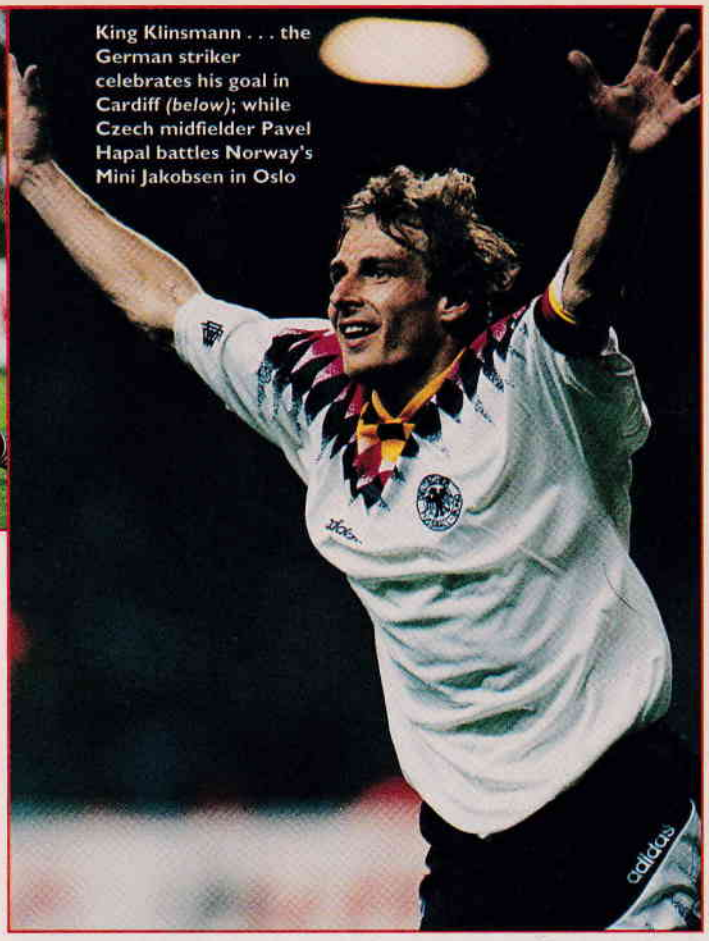
Croatia have all but qualified. They need to win in Slovenia to be sure of top spot as Italy could snatch first place with victories against Ukraine and Lithuania if Croatia fail to win their final game. Draws may not be enough for the Italians, though, whose four-team record against Croatia, Lithuania and Ukraine is only seven points from four games. Indeed, Lithuania could still pip Italy for second place if the Italians fail to beat Ukraine and then lose to Lithuania.

GROUP 5

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Norway	9	6	2	1	17	3	20
Czech Rep	9	5	3	1	18	6	18
Holland	9	5	2	2	20	5	17
Luxembourg	9	3	1	5	3	18	10
Byelorussia	9	2	2	5	6	13	8
Malta	9	0	2	7	2	20	2

4-team record (Norway/Czech Republic/Holland/Luxembourg)

Norway	*5*	*2*	*2*	*1*	*9*	*4*	*8*
Czech Rep	*5*	*2*	*2*	*1*	*6*	*3*	*8*
Holland	*5*	*2*	*2*	*1*	*11*	*4*	*8*



King Klinsmann . . . the German striker celebrates his goal in Cardiff *(below)*; while Czech midfielder Pavel Hapal battles Norway's Mini Jakobsen in Oslo

TO PLAY
12.11.95: MALTA-BYELORUSSIA
15.11.95: CZECH REP-LUXEMBOURG
15.11.95: HOLLAND-NORWAY

One of the tightest groups. Norway, currently top, will finish third if Holland beat them in Rotterdam and the Czechs defeat Luxembourg. A draw for the Dutch would not be enough as the Czechs have the better head-to-head record. Even if Holland beat Norway, they will only win the group if the Czech Republic fail to beat Luxembourg. The result the Dutch will be waiting for will be from Malta. If Byelorussia beat the Maltese and Luxembourg lose to the Czechs, Byelorussia take fourth place in the group. That would mean Holland will have a four-team record of eight points maximum (assuming they beat Norway), which is unlikely to be enough to avoid the Anfield play-off.

GROUP 6

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Portugal	9	6	2	1	25	7	20
Rep. Ireland	9	5	2	2	17	8	17
Austria	9	5	1	3	26	9	16
North Ireland	9	4	2	3	15	12	14
Latvia	10	4	0	6	11	20	12
Liechtenstein	10	0	1	9	1	40	1

4-team record (Portugal/Republic of Ireland/Austria/Northern Ireland)

Portugal	*5*	*2*	*2*	*1*	*5*	*4*	*8*
Rep. Ireland	*5*	*2*	*1*	*2*	*8*	*7*	*7*
Austria	*5*	*2*	*1*	*2*	*8*	*6*	*7*

TO PLAY
15.11.95: PORTUGAL-REP. IRELAND
15.11.95: N. IRELAND-AUSTRIA

The Republic must win in Portugal to win the group. Otherwise they will have to rely on Northern Ireland taking points off Austria. If they draw with the Portuguese and Austria are held in Belfast, the Irish will finish second, but with a record which is unlikely to make them one of the six best runners-up.

GROUP 7

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bulgaria	9	7	1	1	23	7	22
Germany	9	7	1	1	24	9	22
Georgia	9	5	0	4	12	10	15
Wales	9	2	1	6	8	18	7
Albania	9	2	1	6	9	15	7
Moldova	9	2	0	7	8	25	6

4-team record (Bulgaria/Germany/Georgia/Albania)

Bulgaria	*5*	*4*	*0*	*1*	*12*	*5*	*12*
Germany	*5*	*3*	*1*	*1*	*11*	*6*	*10*

TO PLAY
15.11.95: GERMANY-BULGARIA
15.11.95: ALBANIA-WALES
15.11.95: MOLDOVA-GEORGIA

A draw in Germany will be enough for Bulgaria to win the group as they beat Germany in Sofia in June, and thus would have the better head-to-head points record. A win for Germany by a margin of more than one goal would make Germany the group winners.

GROUP 8

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Russia	9	7	2	0	31	4	23
Scotland	9	6	2	1	14	3	20
Greece	9	5	0	4	18	9	15
Finland	9	5	0	4	17	15	15
Faroes	9	2	0	7	10	30	6
San Marino	9	0	0	9	2	31	0

4-team record (Russia/Scotland/Greece/Finland)

Scotland	*6*	*3*	*2*	*1*	*5*	*2*	*11*

TO PLAY
15.11.95: SCOTLAND-SAN MARINO
15.11.95: RUSSIA-FINLAND
15.11.95: GREECE-FAROE ISLANDS

Russia have already qualified as group winners, while Scotland are guaranteed the runners-up spot. Their record should be good enough to get them one of the six best runners-up spots.

Vienna view . . . Portugal's Nelson skips past two Austrian tackles during the 1-1 draw in October

WHO, WHERE, WHEN AND WHAT

GROUP 1

● If **France** lose to **Israel**, it will be the 200th international defeat for the French. Their first defeat was in 1905, when they lost 7-0 to Belgium, and since then the French have conceded exactly 900 goals. However, the French are now unbeaten in 16 games, just three short of their all-time record of 19 (1989-1991).

● If **Slovakia** avoid defeat against **Romania**, it will be their fourth consecutive unbeaten match – a Slovak record. The last Slovak win over the Romanians was in 1942.

GROUP 2

● **Cyprus** need to score four against **Belgium** to bring their total to 100, though the Cypriots have never scored more than three goals in a match.

● **Spain** will improve their longest unbeaten run to 14 matches if they avoid defeat against **Macedonia**. Spain's previous longest unbeaten run was in 1991-92, when they went 12 games without a loss.

GROUP 3

● IF **Turkey** avoid defeat against **Sweden**, they are likely to qualify for a major tournament for the first time since 1954 and extend their record unbeaten run to 15 matches. The match against Sweden will be Turkey's 299th, and their next goal will be their 350th.

● If **Hungary** hit seven against **Iceland**, then the Icelanders will have conceded their 400th international goal. But Hungary – who lost their 200th match, in Zurich in September – are the outsiders because Iceland have won the last three meetings between the sides.

GROUP 4

● **Croatia** need two more goals, against neighbours **Slovenia**, to make it 75 in full internationals.

GROUP 5

● **Norway's** tie with **Holland** in Rotterdam will be their 550th full international. If the Dutch score five, then Norway will have conceded their 1,100th goal. If Norway score five, then the Dutch will have let in their 750th goal.

GROUP 7

● **Wales**, who have recorded 100 international draws so far, could score their 600th goal if they get three against **Albania** in Tirana.

● **Germany** and **Bulgaria** meet for the 20th time since the series began in 1935. The Bulgarians have only won three, but two of those were in the most recent fixtures between the two sides.

GROUP 8

● **Scotland** face **San Marino**, the country with the longest run without a victory in Europe. San Marino have earned one draw, three years ago, in 28 internationals, clocking up a goal difference of 5-114 during that time!

● **Greece** need to score six against the **Faroe Islands** to bring their total up to 400.

● **Russia** and **Finland** met last August for the first time in 83 years and two months – a European record.

PERRY MENEXIS

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EURO '96 . . . THE STORY SO FAR

GROUP 1

04.09.94	Israel v Poland	2-1
07.09.94	Slovakia v France	0-0
07.09.94	Romania v Azerbaijan	3-0
08.10.94	France v Romania	0-0
12.10.94	Israel v Slovakia	2-2
12.10.94	Poland v Azerbaijan	1-0
12.11.94	Romania v Slovakia	3-2
16.11.94	Poland v France	0-0
16.11.94	Azerbaijan v Israel	0-2
13.12.94	Azerbaijan v France	0-2
14.12.94	Israel v Romania	1-1
29.03.95	Romania v Poland	2-1
29.03.95	Israel v France	0-0
29.03.95	Slovakia v Azerbaijan	4-1
25.04.95	Poland v Israel	4-3
26.04.95	France v Slovakia	4-0
26.04.95	Azerbaijan v Romania	1-4
07.06.95	Poland v Slovakia	5-0
07.06.95	Romania v Israel	2-1
16.08.95	France v Poland	1-1
16.08.95	Azerbaijan v Slovakia	0-1
06.09.95	France v Azerbaijan	10-0
06.09.95	Slovakia v Israel	1-0
06.09.95	Poland v Romania	0-0
11.10.95	Romania v France	1-3
11.10.95	Israel v Azerbaijan	2-0
11.10.95	Slovakia v Poland	4-1

GROUP 2

07.09.94	Cyprus v Spain	1-2
07.09.94	Macedonia v Denmark	1-1
07.09.94	Belgium v Armenia	2-0
08.10.94	Armenia v Cyprus	0-0
12.10.94	Denmark v Belgium	3-1
12.10.94	Macedonia v Spain	0-2
16.11.94	Belgium v Macedonia	1-1
16.11.94	Spain v Denmark	3-0
16.11.94	Cyprus v Armenia	2-0
17.12.94	Belgium v Spain	1-4
17.12.94	Macedonia v Cyprus	3-0
29.03.95	Spain v Belgium	1-1
29.03.95	Cyprus v Denmark	1-1
26.04.95	Armenia v Spain	0-2
26.04.95	Belgium v Cyprus	2-0
26.04.95	Denmark v Macedonia	1-0
10.05.95	Armenia v Macedonia	2-2
07.06.95	Denmark v Cyprus	4-0
07.06.95	Macedonia v Belgium	0-5
07.06.95	Spain v Armenia	1-0
16.08.95	Armenia v Denmark	0-2
06.09.95	Belgium v Denmark	1-3
06.09.95	Spain v Cyprus	6-0
06.09.95	Macedonia v Armenia	1-2
07.10.95	Armenia v Belgium	0-2
11.10.95	Denmark v Spain	1-1
11.10.95	Cyprus v Macedonia	1-1

GROUP 3

07.09.94	Iceland v Sweden	0-1
07.09.94	Hungary v Turkey	2-2
12.10.94	Turkey v Iceland	5-0
12.10.94	Switzerland v Sweden	4-2
16.11.94	Switzerland v Iceland	1-0
16.11.94	Sweden v Hungary	2-0
14.12.94	Turkey v Switzerland	1-2
29.03.95	Turkey v Sweden	2-1
29.03.95	Hungary v Switzerland	2-2
26.04.95	Hungary v Sweden	1-0
26.04.95	Switzerland v Turkey	1-2
01.06.95	Sweden v Iceland	1-1
11.06.95	Iceland v Hungary	2-1
16.08.95	Iceland v Switzerland	0-2
06.09.95	Sweden v Switzerland	0-0
06.09.95	Turkey v Hungary	2-0
11.10.95	Switzerland v Hungary	3-0
11.10.95	Iceland v Turkey	0-0

GROUP 4

04.09.94	Estonia v Croatia	0-2
07.09.94	Slovenia v Italy	1-1
07.09.94	Ukraine v Lithuania	0-2
08.10.94	Estonia v Italy	0-2
09.10.94	Croatia v Lithuania	2-0
12.10.94	Ukraine v Slovenia	0-0
13.11.94	Ukraine v Estonia	3-0
16.11.94	Slovenia v Lithuania	1-2
16.11.94	Italy v Croatia	1-2
25.03.95	Italy v Estonia	4-1
25.03.95	Croatia v Ukraine	4-0
29.03.95	Slovenia v Estonia	3-0
29.03.95	Ukraine v Italy	0-2
29.03.95	Lithuania v Croatia	0-0
26.04.95	Lithuania v Italy	0-1
26.04.95	Croatia v Slovenia	2-0
26.04.95	Estonia v Ukraine	0-1
07.06.95	Lithuania v Slovenia	2-1
11.06.95	Estonia v Slovenia	1-3
11.06.95	Ukraine v Croatia	1-0
16.08.95	Estonia v Lithuania	0-1
03.09.95	Croatia v Estonia	7-1
06.09.95	Italy v Slovenia	1-0
06.09.95	Lithuania v Ukraine	1-3
08.10.95	Croatia v Italy	1-1
11.10.95	Slovenia v Ukraine	3-2
11.10.95	Lithuania v Estonia	5-0

GROUP 5

06.09.94	Czech Rep v Malta	6-1
07.09.94	Luxembourg v Holland	0-4
07.09.94	Norway v Byelorussia	1-0
12.10.94	Malta v Czech Rep	0-0
12.10.94	Byelorussia v Lux'bourg	2-0
12.10.94	Norway v Holland	1-1
16.11.94	Byelorussia v Norway	0-4
16.11.94	Holland v Czech Rep	0-0
14.12.94	Malta v Norway	0-1
14.12.94	Holland v Luxembourg	5-0
22.02.95	Malta v Luxembourg	0-1
29.03.95	Czech Rep v Byelorussia	4-2
29.03.95	Luxembourg v Norway	0-2
29.03.95	Holland v Malta	4-0
26.04.95	Byelorussia v Malta	1-1
26.04.95	Czech Rep v Holland	3-1
26.04.95	Norway v Luxembourg	5-0
07.06.95	Byelorussia v Holland	1-0
07.06.95	Lux'bourg v Czech Rep	1-0
07.06.95	Norway v Malta	2-0
16.08.95	Norway v Czech Rep	1-1
06.09.95	Czech Rep v Norway	2-0
06.09.95	Luxembourg v Malta	1-0
06.09.95	Holland v Byelorussia	1-0
07.10.95	Byelorussia v Czech Rep	0-2
11.10.95	Malta v Holland	0-4
11.10.95	Luxembourg v Byelorussia	0-0

GROUP 6

20.04.94	N. Ireland v Liecht'stein	4-1
07.09.94	Liechtenstein v Austria	0-4
07.09.94	N. Ireland v Portugal	1-2
07.09.94	Latvia v Rep. Ireland	0-3
09.10.94	Latvia v Portugal	1-3
12.10.94	Austria v N. Ireland	1-2
12.10.94	Rep Ireland v Lcht'stein	4-0
13.11.94	Portugal v Austria	1-0
15.11.94	Liechtenstein v Latvia	0-1
16.11.94	N. Ireland v Rep. Ireland	0-4
18.12.94	Portugal v Liechtenstein	8-0
29.03.95	Rep. Ireland v N. Ireland	1-1
29.03.95	Austria v Latvia	5-0
26.04.95	Rep. Ireland v Portugal	1-0
26.04.95	Latvia v N. Ireland	0-1
26.04.95	Austria v Liechtenstein	7-0
03.06.95	Portugal v Latvia	3-2
03.06.95	Lcht'stein v Rep. Ireland	0-0
07.06.95	N. Ireland v Latvia	1-2
11.06.95	Rep. Ireland v Austria	1-3
15.08.95	Liechtenstein v Portugal	0-7
16.08.95	Latvia v Austria	3-2
03.09.95	Portugal v N. Ireland	1-1
06.09.95	Austria v Rep. Ireland	3-1
06.09.95	Latvia v Liechtenstein	1-0
11.10.95	Rep. Ireland v Latvia	2-1
11.10.95	Austria v Portugal	1-1
11.10.95	Liechtenstein v N. Ireland	0-4

GROUP 7

07.09.94	Wales v Albania	2-0
07.09.94	Georgia v Moldova	0-1
12.10.94	Moldova v Wales	3-2
12.10.94	Bulgaria v Georgia	2-0
16.11.94	Albania v Germany	1-2
16.11.94	Georgia v Wales	5-0
16.11.94	Bulgaria v Moldova	4-1
14.12.94	Wales v Bulgaria	0-3
14.12.94	Moldova v Germany	0-3
14.12.94	Albania v Georgia	0-1
18.12.94	Germany v Albania	2-1
29.03.95	Georgia v Germany	0-2
29.03.95	Bulgaria v Wales	3-1
29.03.95	Albania v Moldova	3-0
26.04.95	Germany v Wales	1-1
26.04.95	Moldova v Bulgaria	0-3
26.04.95	Georgia v Albania	2-0
07.06.95	Bulgaria v Germany	3-2
07.06.95	Wales v Georgia	0-1
07.06.95	Moldova v Albania	2-3
06.09.95	Germany v Georgia	4-1
06.09.95	Wales v Moldova	1-0
06.09.95	Albania v Bulgaria	1-1
07.10.95	Bulgaria v Albania	3-0
08.10.95	Germany v Moldova	6-1
11.10.95	Wales v Germany	1-2
11.10.95	Georgia v Bulgaria	2-1

GROUP 8

07.09.94	Finland v Scotland	0-2
07.09.94	Faroe Islands v Greece	1-5
12.10.94	Scotland v Faroes	5-1
12.10.94	Greece v Finland	4-0
12.10.94	Russia v San Marino	4-0
16.11.94	Scotland v Russia	1-1
16.11.94	Greece v San Marino	2-0
16.11.94	Finland v Faroe Islands	5-0
14.12.94	Finland v San Marino	4-1
18.12.94	Greece v Scotland	1-0
29.03.94	Russia v Scotland	0-0
29.03.95	San Marino v Finland	0-2
26.04.95	San Marino v Scotland	0-2
26.04.95	Greece v Russia	0-3
26.04.95	Faroe Islands v Finland	0-4
06.05.95	Russia v Faroe Islands	3-0
25.05.95	Faroes v San Marino	3-0
07.06.95	Faroe s v Scotland	0-2
07.06.95	San Marino v Russia	0-7
11.06.95	Finland v Greece	2-1
16.08.95	Scotland v Greece	1-0
16.08.95	Finland v Russia	0-6
06.09.95	Scotland v Finland	1-0
06.09.95	Faroe Islands v Russia	2-5
06.09.95	San Marino v Greece	0-4
11.10.95	Russia v Greece	2-1
11.10.95	San Marino v Faroes	1-3

THE FINALS

The European Championship Finals run from Saturday June 8, 1996, to Sunday June 30, at eight venues, with the competing nations split into four groups of four.

Group A: Wembley and Villa Park (Birmingham),
Group B: Elland Road (Leeds) and St James' Park (Newcastle),
Group C: Old Trafford (Manchester) and Anfield (Liverpool), and
Group D: Hillsborough (Sheffield) and City Ground (Nottingham).

FIRST ROUND

08.06.96	A1 v A2	Wembley 3.00
09.06.96	B1 v B2	Leeds 2.30
09.06.96	C1 v C2	Manchester 5.00
09.06.96	D1 v D2	Sheffield 7.30
10.06.96	A3 v A4	Birmingham 4.30
10.06.96	B3 v B4	Newcastle 7.30
11.06.96	C3 v C4	Liverpool 4.30
11.06.96	D3 v D4	Nottingham 7.30
13.06.96	A2 v A3	Birmingham 7.30
13.06.96	B2 v B3	Newcastle 4.30
14.06.96	C2 v C3	Liverpool 7.30
14.06.96	D2 v D3	Nottingham 4.30
15.06.96	A4 v A1	Wembley 3.00
15.06.96	B4 v B1	Leeds 6.00
16.06.96	C4 v C1	Manchester 3.00
16.06.96	D4 v D1	Sheffield 6.00
18.06.96	A4 v A2	Birmingham 7.30
18.06.96	B4 v B2	Newcastle 4.30
18.06.96	A3 v A1	Wembley 7.30
18.06.96	B3 v B1	Leeds 4.30
19.06.96	C4 v C2	Liverpool 7.30
19.06.96	D4 v D2	Nottingham 4.30
19.06.96	C3 v C1	Manchester 7.30
19.06.96	D3 v D1	Sheffield 4.30

QUARTER-FINALS

22.06.96	1B v 2A	Liverpool 6.30
22.06.96	2B v 1A	Wembley 3.00
23.06.96	1C v 2D	Manchester 3.00
23.06.96	2C v 1D	Birmingham 6.30

SEMI-FINALS

26.06.96	QF1 v QF4	Manchester 4.00
26.06.96	QF2 v QF3	Wembley 7.30

FINAL

30.06.96	SF1 v SF2	Wembley 7.00

The Vision thing

World vision . . . FIFA's Joao Havelange

THE PLEASURE of seeing the World Cup finals alighting on somewhere in Europe once every eight years could be brought to an end rather more suddenly than expected.

After the fun and games in France in June and July of 1998 it could then be the year 2018 before the World Cup 'comes back'.

That would be extremely bad news for Germany, who are halfway down the road to bidding for 2006, and perhaps England, where the FA would have to consider a bid if the European Championship reaches a successful climax next June.

Ironically, of course, the prospect of the long wait is the result of an initiative by UEFA. The 'Vision' proposals for the political and financial restructuring of FIFA in particular and the world game in general, raise the proposed rotation of both the FIFA presidency and the World Cup finals.

The rotation between confederations of the presidency died an early death. But rotating the World Cup finals is a different ball game.

It had appeared a quite reasonable gesture to football's developing world when viewed in tandem with the slimming-down proposal that the South American confederation should be merged with CONCACAF (North and Central America). UEFA suggested that such a rotation between the Americas, Asia, Africa (if they could come up with a financially and infrastructurally credible host) should begin from 2010 i.e. AFTER the European sandwich of 1998 and 2006, with Asia in the middle.

When FIFA's emergency committee debated 'Vision' several of the delegates were surprised that president Joao Havelange did not appear to take exception to the rotation idea. Sources within CONMEBOL, however, suggest he believes such a rotation should start, in effect, now. Thus 1998 Europe, 2002 Asia, 2006 Africa, 2010 South America, 2014 North and Central America . . . and 2018 Europe.

A Brazilian joke? A heavy slice of anti-European mischief? Maybe. The possibility has certainly put the cat among the German pigeons.

It may be more than a possibility. On December 9, in Paris, before the 1998 World Cup qualifying draw, FIFA's executive committee will consider recommendations of a study group on the subject of 'Vision'.

Rotation of the World Cup is one of those items which appears set for approval. The Asians like it. The Africans like it. The South Americans like it. The Central and North Americans like it. A few Europeans may be having second thoughts.

How ironic if this, of all the 'Vision' proposals, were the one to get the immediate thumbs-up.

Joel purpose

Video opponent . . . referee Quiniou

FRENCH referee Joel Quiniou is the latest opponent of video assistance for referees.

He has a better view on the subject than most. Quiniou was selected to referee a match (between two amateur teams) with a direct audio link to a fourth official, who watched the action on screen and passed on his own opinions to Quiniou. Perhaps Quiniou felt his authority being usurped by this disembodied voice in his ear.

Afterwards he said: "Each to his own. Leave TV to the television people and leave refereeing to referees. What's much more important right now is for FIFA to work to enforce common worldwide standards among referees."

Scotland calling **ROBERT PRYTZ** *(above centre)*, **former Sweden midfielder, retired to Scotland after making his last appearance for Malmo in a 0-0 draw away to Trelleborgs in the Swedish championship.**

He says he has no interest in continuing to play anything . . . except golf. Prytz played in Sweden, Scotland (with Rangers), Germany, Switzerland and Italy before he returning to Sweden and Malmo, his original club, two years ago.

Youthful product . . . Davids of Ajax

Job for life

DREAMING OF AJAX, the BBC's football documentary about how the European champions go about educating their kids to grow up into both rounded human beings and – the lucky few – star footballers, should be obligatory viewing for anyone involved in football coaching.

It's not enough, said Louis Van Gaal and Co Adriaanse in effect, to teach football. Ajax players must be able to think constructively about the game . . . and how can they do they do that if they haven't been taught to think about life as a whole? Sums up exactly why so many Ajax players have been a credit to the club not merely on the pitch but off it as well.

Collective responsibility

TELEVISION is often being urged to be 'more responsible' in its coverage of football. As if some sort of censorship should be retained in return for those financial telephone numbers.

It's an argument being taken seriously, however, by TF-1 in France. Director Claude Dassier has decided not to undertake all those endless, analytical, slow-motion reruns of fouls and offsides. Dassier says: "Referees have a tough enough time as it is. We want to reflect the positive side of football so this our contribution to the fairplay philosophy."

Some clubs more equal than others

THERE are contracts . . . and then there are contracts.

The Belgian League has undertaken a blanket sponsorship deal with the fast food chain, McDonalds. For the next two seasons all clubs' senior and reserve teams will wear the golden arches emblem on their shirts . . . except Anderlecht, Standard and Club Brugge.

League president Roger Vandenstock says that's because the Big Three are already under contractual obligations which prevent them from taking yet another logo on board. Personally, if I wanted to promote a company product in Belgium I would rather have those three clubs on board than all the rest put together.

Ref ceasefire

JOHANNES MALKA has retired as German refereeing supremo.

Malka, now 73, has decided on a more tranquil life. He collected plenty of criticism along the way but is proud to point out that only Germany and Italy boast 10 FIFA referees – "and that must prove that we, in Germany, have been on the right track."

Looking back over almost 50 years as an active referee and then a refereeing official, Malka regrets the increase in aggression and heavy-weight pressure exerted on referees. He also believes television has been a negative influence – undermining referees' decisions and, consequently, their self-confidence and decisiveness.

Not that Malka, the referee, was a stranger to controversy. After one highly controversial Fairs Cup-tie between Hibernian and Barcelona at Easter Road, Edinburgh, he was pursued from the pitch at the final whistle by furious Spanish players. On emerging from behind his locked door, much later, he mused: "Next time I referee a Spanish team I will wear running spikes and carry a gun."

Football feast

THE third matchday of this season's Champions League was, without doubt, the most spectacular in the event's four years.

A total of 28 goals, thanks largely to Real Madrid, Juventus and Ajax out-classing the likes of Ferencvaros, Rangers and Grasshopper to the tune of six, four and three goals respectively. Just goes to show that, for all UEFA's attempts to balance up the coefficients, there's nothing like a bit of imbalance every now and again!

Slush puppy

YOU never know where the tentacles of Bernard Tapie are going to pop up next.

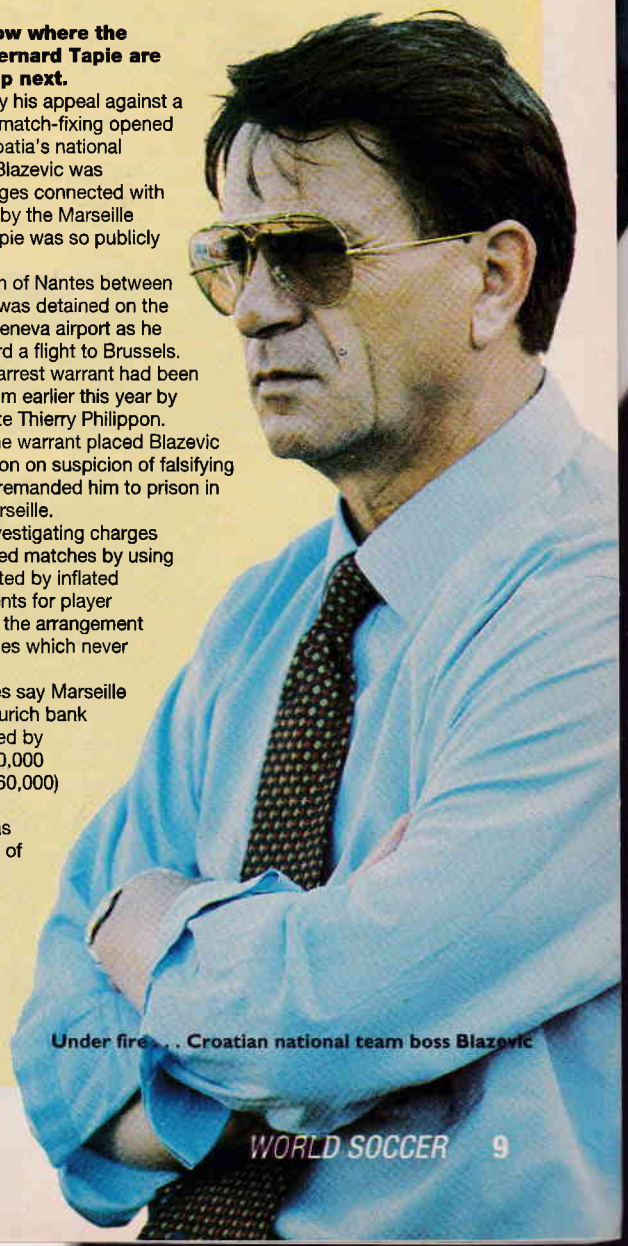
On the very day his appeal against a jail sentence for match-fixing opened in France, so Croatia's national coach Miroslav Blazevic was arrested on charges connected with a slush fund run by the Marseille club of which Tapie was so publicly president.

Blazevic, coach of Nantes between 1989 and 1991, was detained on the French side of Geneva airport as he prepared to board a flight to Brussels. An international arrest warrant had been issued against him earlier this year by French magistrate Thierry Philippon.

Execution of the warrant placed Blazevic under investigation on suspicion of falsifying documents and remanded him to prison in Luynes, near Marseille.

Philippon is investigating charges that Marseille fixed matches by using slush funds created by inflated payments to agents for player transfers and for the arrangement of friendly matches which never took place.

Judicial sources say Marseille had credited a Zurich bank account controlled by Blazevic with 420,000 French francs (£60,000) in January 1990. Blazevic, who has coached a string of teams in former Yugoslavia, Switzerland and France, has denied being involved in match-fixing.


Under fire . . . Croatian national team boss Blazevic

Food stuff

YOU'VE heard of food for thought. Now try food for transfers – in the case of two new additions to the Premiership scene, Georgi Kinkladze and Juninho.

Manchester City have sponsored an application for a six-week visa on behalf of Kinkladze's mother, Elena. She wants to help the 21-year-old Georgian settle into a new home in Cheshire and provide him with the sort of meals designed to bring out the best in him. Missing Mum's menus may have been the reason Kinkladze failed to impress Boca Juniors while on trial in Argentina earlier this year.

As for Juninho, Brazil's Ministry of Agriculture has come up with a foolproof scheme to ensure that 'proper' Brazilian rice and beans bypass British food controls.

"We'll inspect Juninho's rice and beans and stamp them with a government seal," says Jose Tadeu de Faria, the vegetable inspection director of Brazil's Ministry of Agriculture.

Juninho's mother, Lucia, was worrying not about the threat posed by Premiership defences but by the thought that import restrictions would prevent her cooking Juninho's favourite dishes.

Libero

Libero

COMPILED BY GAVIN HAMILTON & JOHN KELLY

Dinamo die-hards upset the President

WHO said football and politics don't mix? Certainly not Croatia's President Franjo Tudjman ***(pictured right)***.

When Croatia won its independence from Yugoslavia in 1991, Tudjman banned the name 'Dinamo', or dynamo, because it symbolised Croatia's subjugation in a Serbian-dominated Yugoslav federation.

Consequently, Dinamo Zagreb were forced to change their name, firstly to Croatian Academic Sports Club and later, after that proved too much of a mouthful, to simply FC Croatia. This, however, proved unpopular with fans who had lustily chanted their support for "Dinamo" for decades.

Thus, at a recent election campaign rally, hecklers interrupted Tudjman's speech by shouting: "Dinamo, Dinamo . . . " Tudjman denounced them as dupes of "provocateurs" eager to undermine a sovereign Croatia, saying: "Listen! We have restored and resurrected Croatia which those who proclaimed 'Dinamo' sought to erase every trace of for all time!"

Some of the hecklers said later they had no interest in politics and only wanted back the name of their favourite club. Die-hard Dinamo fans have heckled Tudjman before in public, and he no longer attends matches of Croatia's top Cibona basketball team in Zagreb because fans always started chanting "Dinamo" as soon as they spotted him.

Shirt Tales

BOCA JUNIORS

Argentina's biggest and best-supported club, Boca Juniors, were founded in 1905 by an Irishman named Patrick MacCarthy and a group of Italian immigrants. The founding members, unable to decide what colours to play in, chose to adopt the national colours of the next ship to sail up the River Plate. The boat was Swedish, hence Boca's strip of blue and yellow. Diego Maradona *(pictured right)* is now back for his second spell with Boca. He first played for the club in the early 1980s.

This is the ESM team of the month, based on votes from journalists at *A Bola* (Portugal), *don balon* (Spain), *Foot* (Belgium), *Kicker* (Germany), *La Gazzetta dello Sport* (Italy), *onze mondial* (France), *Sport* (Switzerland), *Voetbal International* (Holland) and *WORLD SOCCER*.

ESM EUROPEAN SPORTS MAGAZINES

Kicking ass

IT didn't take long for the Italian press to turn on Paul Ince. Italian journalists raved about the England midfielder's pre-season performances for Internazionale. However, Ince's performance in Inter's 4-0 defeat to Torino earned him the dubious honour of *L'asino della Settimana* (Donkey of the Week) from weekly sports magazine *Guerin Sportivo*.

L'ASINO DELLA SETTIMANA

Paul INCE
Inter

«Se la stampa italiana continua così, potrei anche andarmene» ha minacciato dopo l'ennesimo voto basso in pagella. E se è lui a continuare così, giocando male perfino nel 4-0 al Torino e abbattendo Cristallini con un tackle criminale?

Badge Business

NAGOYA GRAMPUS EIGHT

Nagoya Grampus Eight take their name from the legend of the killer whales (grampus) which saved the Japanese city from fire by spouting water from the sea. A cartoon whale now takes pride of place on the club crest. As for the eight, it's a lucky number in Japan . . .

Lip Service

"Juninho won't find the language a problem. He only needs to know three bits of English: pound, thank you and bye-bye." – Jan-Aage Fjortoft on Middlesbrough's new arrival.

"It is not the end of the world. Just the end of Europe." – Liverpool boss Roy Evans after his side's UEFA Cup defeat by Brondby.

"For passing and movement Auxerre are the best side we have played in my time in charge, but we stuck at it." – Nottingham Forest's Frank Clark after victory over Auxerre.

"Ossie had promised us an exciting, attacking team that would succeed. This was not happening." – Salvador Martinez, president of Guadalajara, on the sacking of Ossie Ardiles a year to the day the Argentinian left Spurs

Finding the Net

THE number of Internet users is up by around 10 per cent every month so it will come as no surprise that there is a growing demand for football on the Net.

Okay, so the game is already widely covered in print, on TV and radio. The Net, however, opens up all sorts of new possibilities.

The ideal starting point is the Yahoo soccer directory, which features 97 entries. Top of the pile alphabetically speaking, but up there with the best too, is the Atalanta Canada fan club (e-mail bonzanis@edgett.mast.queensu.ca). Founded last June by a 'group of crazy Atalanta fans' living in Kingston, Ontario, this site is not just a venue for self-indulgent Atalanta heads, but also a freeway into the on-line world of Calcio. Up-to-the-minute results, tables, a full fixture list, pictures of Serie A goals and video on-line highlights, archive material, as well as links to other Italian sites.in various states of completion . . . it's a heady ride.

Scroll further down Yahoo's index and another worthwhile stop-off point is *Daily Mail* Soccernet (http://soccernet.com), which is *the* site for English cyber-soccer fans. Their strengths are providing up-to-date results, tables and regular football news flashes, together with a weekly commentary, their own Dream Soccer game and in-depth pages on Premiership clubs complete with player profiles, news, gossip et al.

Log on and get started. We'll review more sites next month.

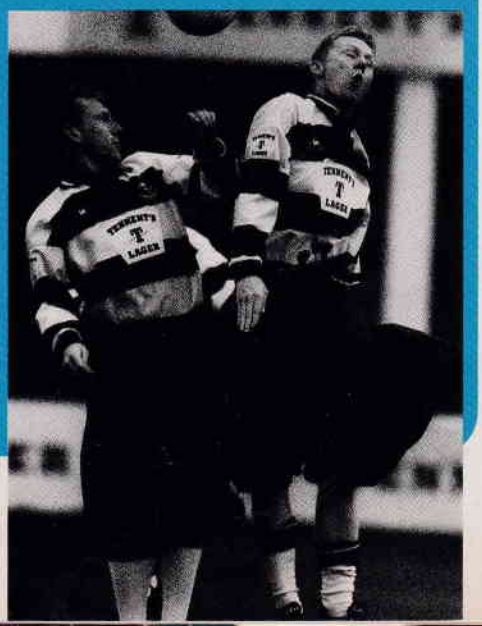
Come and have a go...

FANCY being a professional footballer? Now's your chance. One catch – it's in the United States. The new pro league, Major League Soccer, opens next April and the new clubs need players. So two-day open trials will be staged over the next month across the States. Want to know more? Don't phone us. Phone the official MLS information service on (001) 800 678 1328.

£OOTBALL £INANCIAL

Skirting the issue

STRUGGLING Shamrock Rovers, the Republic of Ireland's most successful club, have just signed a £150,000, three-year sponsorship package with Tennent's Lager. "Hoops springs eternal," quipped manager Ray Treacy as the deal with Rovers – nicknamed the Hoops – was announced at Dublin's RDS Showgrounds. When you are the country's most successful club but are currently in the relegation zone, it is amazing the hoops your players ***(right)*** will jump through when a company dangles a £150,000 cheque in front of you!



Sports

REF JUSTICE

A REFEREE has finally turned the tables on Brazil's wild footballers . . . lashing out at a player during a match. Luiz Vila Nova was in the process of sending off Semilde, a midfielder with Urubuetama in a Ceara State Championship match against Ferroviario, when he became incensed by something the player said and floored him with a fierce right hook to the chin.

CLEAN PAIR OF CUBAN HEELS

LAZARO ABUIN SANCHEZ, a member of the Cuban national team, has defected to the United States. Sanchez, 17, made his move during his team's stopover at Miami International Airport, where he was turned over to immigration officials. The team were on their way back to Cuba following a 10-day visit to Philadelphia.

COACH KICKED INTO TOUCH

ERIC CANTONA'S influence is growing. A South African player is the latest victim, given a one-year ban from the game after landing a kung-fu kick . . . on his own coach! Rabali Blackpool's Austrian-born coach, Walter Rautmann, needed treatment for a kidney injury after the incident with Rabali defender Ahmed Gora Ebrahim. The player was taken away in a police van after the incident in a First Division match against visiting Umtata Bucks in Thohoyandou, shown live on South African TV. Substituted after just 16 minutes, Ebrahim tore off his shirt as he walked off the pitch and then launched a Cantona-style kick at the coach.

ALL THAT GLITTERS . . .

SKY SPORTS' much-trumpeted new Gold channel, concentrating on sports history, made an illiterate start. The first big event was a rerun of the 1966 World Cup Final. Of course, the camera work was not what one expects nowadays. On the other hand, at least all the original captions were correct . . . which was more than can be said of Sky's modern-day's additions. Sir Alf Ramsey was labelled as Ramsay . . . the first German goal-scorer was described not as Haller but as Halle . . . and that most dramatic equaliser was credited not to Wolfgang Weber but to Ralf Weber. Seems a history lesson is in order!

ANGUISH FOR ANGWE

NIGERIAN club Julius Berger reached the final of the African Cup-winners Cup with a 1-0 win over Mozambique's Maxaquene, but their celebrations were cut short when midfielder Amir Angwe collapsed and died from heart failure.

Angwe is the second Nigerian to die on the pitch in as many months. In September Igenewari George, brother of Ajax star Finidi, was shot dead by a stray bullet after fans rioted following an FA Cup match between his team, Rangers International, and Stationery Stores FC. The Nigerian FA has banned Stores from all football activities for 12 months and ordered the club to pay £1,100 in compensation to Rangers.

Saved by a sponsor

Ajax Amsterdam play Gremio for the title of World Club Champions in Tokyo on November 28. Below, Alan Fairley reviews the chequered history of the World Club Championship, while opposite, we look at the two teams

Giants clash . . . Lenhox of Celtic (no 8) confronts Racing's Basile (no 6) in Montevideo in 1967

IT WAS, perhaps, a chasm too great to be bridged by a mere game of football. The theory, originally formulated by CONMEBOL, South American football's governing body, was to bring together the two best teams from Europe and South America to compete for the title of World Club Champions.

It was innovative and logical. In practice, little cognisance had been given to the problems involved in setting up a home-an-away showdown between teams of football players from different continents, climates and cultures.

In the early years of the tournament, which began in 1960 when European champions Real Madrid beat Libertadores Cup winners Penarol of Uruguay, such difficulties were not manifestly apparent.

Cultural links between South American countries and the Latin/Hispanic areas of southern Europe were comparatively close and, although there were travel-related problems to be overcome due to the lack of sophistication in transatlantic communications at that time, there were few other worries as teams such as Real Madrid, Penarol, Independiente, Benfica, Milan and Internazionale fought out some memorable incident-free tussles.

The watershed occurred, however, in 1967 when Celtic became the first team from northern Europe to win the Champions Cup.

Later that year, South American champions Racing Avellaneda of Buenos Aires travelled to Glasgow for the first leg of what was sometimes referred to as the Intercontinental Cup. Celtic switched the game to the national stadium, Hampden Park, to accommodate the expected six-figure crowd, and rewarded their fans with a 1-0 victory, the solitary goal being a trademark header from club captain Billy McNeil.

During that game Celtic were first exposed to the cancerous thuggery which was malignant In South American football in those days. On the field the players were kicked, punched, elbowed and spat upon in a manner previously unknown to them.

After the game, diminutive winger Jimmy Johnstone sat distressed in the changing room, his curly red hair horrifically congealed by the vast quantities of Argentinian saliva which had been fired in his direction.

The return leg in Buenos Aires proved even more disconcerting, with goalkeeper Ronnie Simpson being withdrawn before kick-off after having been struck on the head by a missile during the pre-match warm-up. After another 90 minutes of intimidation, Celtic lost 2-1, which meant a play-off across the River Plate in 'neutral' Montevideo.

Events during the third game surpassed anything that had gone on before as Celtic players finally cracked. The ensuing battle led to five men, three from Celtic, two from Racing, being sent off as the Argentinians secured a 1-0 victory.

'Jimmy Johnstone sat distressed in the changing room, his curly red hair horrifically congealed by the vast quantities of Argentinian saliva'

One year later it was another British club, Manchester United, who were to suffer at the hands of an Argentinian side, Estudiantes de la Plata. Winger Willie Morgan recalled how, during the first game in Buenos Aires, he felt like an Olympic hurdler as he raced up the flank, leaping high to avoid the scything challenges of Estudiantes defenders. His imaginary race, however, was crudely curtailed as a set of studs came crushing into his chest.

Like Celtic, United lost out to their South American opponents and, after Estudiantes had inflicted similar intimidatory tactics on Feyenoord and Milan in the succeeding years, it was left to Ajax to make a stand. The 1971 champions refused to participate in the competition in order to protect their players.

The tournament then entered a depressing, downward spiral as Bayern Munich, Liverpool and Nottingham Forest all followed the example set by Ajax and declined to take part.

With the championship virtually defunct, and totally bereft of any prestige, a 'white knight' appeared in the form of Japanese car manufacturers Toyota, who, in 1980, produced a sponsorship package which incorporated a proposal that the decider be played on a one-off basis each year, in Tokyo.

This appeared to provide an acceptable compromise for all concerned and in 1980 Nottingham Forest and National of Montevideo travelled to Japan, with the Uruguayans triumphing 1-0 in front of an appreciative Japanese audience.

Since then Tokyo has hosted the final every year and the intercontinental contests have passed, thankfully, without any of the distasteful scenes which marred the tournament in the 1960s.

Some exceptional matches have taken place, with perhaps the most memorable of all being in 1981, when Brazil's Flamengo, inspired by the legendary Zico, overcame the seemingly invincible Liverpool with a 3-0 victory.

Liverpool also lost in 1984, when they were beaten 1-0 by Independiente. It is interesting to note that, despite the English dominance of the Champions Cup during the late 1970s and early 1980s, no club from England has managed to take the title of World Club Champions.

This year, the final takes place in Tokyo's national stadium on Tuesday Novemeber 28. The referee will be England's David Elleray.

In general, the South Americans retain the edge in the tournament, having won 20 of the 33 contests since it began in 1960.

They might be giants

AJAX AMSTERDAM may at long last be about to establish themsleves as one of European football's superpowers.

The tradition of entertaining, attacking football continues, as, until recently, did the tradition of selling players that dates back to the departure of Johan Cruyff to Barcelona for £922,000 in 1973.

Johan Neeskens, Frank Rijkaard, Marco Van Basten and Dennis Bergkamp are just some of the other great names who have moved to richer pastures over the years. Clarence Seedorf was the latest to be sold. He joined Sampdoria this summer. However, Ajax were able to decline offers for winger Marc Overmars, such was the newly-found financial solvency of a club generally regarded as poor relations among Europe's fat cats.

Prize money from last year's Champions League has eased the move to a purpose-built stadium on the outskirts of Amsterdam in August 1996. The new ground will be the most advanced football stadium in the world, with a retractable roof and an underground car park. The 50,000 capacity is already sold out for the entire 1996-97 season.

On the pitch, coach Louis Van Gaal's side are rampant. They last lost a Dutch League game on May 8, 1994, 2-1 to Willem II. That was the last day of the 1993-94 season; the title was already in the bag.

Such was the European Champions' domination of the domestic scene last season that they were undefeated in the title race and were not far away from meeting their own reserves in the Cup Final! Reigning European Champions Milan were defeated three times in the course of the season, most crucially in Vienna's Ernst Happel stadium in the 1995 Champions Cup Final.

This season Ajax have scored 53 goals while conceding just four in 16 League and Champions League matches. Their draw with Grasshopper in the Champions League took their unbeaten run in Europe to 15 games – a European record.

Seedorf and Frank Rijkaard, who retired, were the main departures over the summer. Marcio Santos was the big summer signing, from Fiorentina. As for other new blood, Van Gaal has again turned to the famed Ajax youth school.

Of the 11 players who started the Champions Cup Final, eight were graduates of the Ajax school. Another, Patrick Kluivert, came off the bench to score the winner. This season Martin Reuser, Kiki Musampa and Nordin Wooter are the latest to break into the first team.

Marcio Santos was injured recently playing for Brazil but should be back for the trip to Tokyo. He is likely to play alongside Michael Reiziger and Frank De Boer in the back three, with captain Danny Blind just in front of them. In midfield Ronald De Boer operates on the right, with Finnish international Jari Litmanen in the middle and Edgar Davids on the left. Up front Patrick Kluivert and Marc Overmars link up with Nigerians Finidi George or Nwankwo Kanu.

Ajax declined to take part in the World Club Cup in 1971, beat Independiente 4-1 on aggregate in 1973, and again refused to enter in 1974. They now travel to Tokyo to take on Gremio. Few would argue against Van Gaal's team sweeping aside the Brazilians. Or that they will be making a few more trips to Tokyo yet.

GAVIN HAMILTON

Tough nuts to crack

GREMIO are one of the least inspiring teams ever to win the Libertadores Cup, as they did earlier this year.

My colleague Eric Weil's report of a disappointing tournament, in last month's issue of *WORLD SOCCER*, was headlined Gremio, weakest of the strongest, which aptly summed up their place in the scheme of things. But they are not physically weak.

Far from it.

They play with a dour style that bears more resemblance to their neighbours in the River Plate countries rather than their fellow Brazilian teams, and have been involved in several unsavoury matches this year.

One was the Libertadores Cup quarter-final first leg, at home to Palmeiras. Three players were sent off in the first half, which was held up by a 10-minute brawl involving police – who, according to visiting coach Carlos Alberto Silva, were encouraged by Gremio players to attack his men.

Gremio, from Porto Alegre, are coached by little-known Luis Felipe Scolari, who was accused of attacking a rival coach during a match earlier this season.

Their playing squad have a mere four international appearances for Brazil between them. Goalkeeper Danrlei has made three, and midfielder Dinho one, in a meaningless friendly against Mexico two years ago.

Most of their international experience lies with their two Paraguayans, defenders Francisco Arce and Catalino Rivarola.

The strength is in tactical organisation and determination. The most talented individual is forward Paulo Nunes, signed from Flamengo, but the main attacking ploy is the high ball lauched towards six-footer Jardel, who scored 13 goals in the Libertadores competition.

He was signed from Vasco da Gama, where he was never accepted by fans despite scoring twice in the decisive game of last year's Rio de Janeiro championship, against Fluminense.

Other key players include former Sao Paulo and Santos midfielder Dinho, Gremio's answer to Vinnie Jones. He has been sent off three times this year, and was at the centre of the Palmeiras brawl.

BRIAN HOMEWOOD

The host with the

Japan's case for staging the 2002 World Cup is strong. But, argues Keir Radnedge, there are problems to address and still plenty of time for an alternative Korea move

JAPAN remain favourites to win the bid to host the World Cup in 2002 despite the aggression which South Korea have put into their attempt to catch up.

But that is the problem confronting Ken Naganuma. As president of the Japanese Football Association, not the least of his problems is how to re-establish the early momentum of the bid from the rising sun.

The Japanese are promising billions more television spectators than the Koreans and one million more fans – to a record maximum of four million – in the stadia. They, like the Koreans, have offered to put their tournament profits into a world football development fund.

But the move to delay the host designation decision from January back until next June was not good news for Japan. Naganuma appreciates that, on the one hand, it gives Korea more time in which to catch up. On the other hand, it was a further political defeat – following last year's setback in the FIFA vice-presidential elections when Japan's Tadao Murata was beaten almost out of sight by Korean federation president Chung Mong-Joon.

Naganuma remains upbeat. He says: "We have worked hard for many years to try to realise this dream of the World Cup in Japan. We have the technology, we have the stadia and you can see from the J.League that we have the engaged the enthusiasm of our people for soccer. It would be perfectly logical for the next step to be welcoming the world – and the World Cup."

Of course, the Japanese can afford whatever is necessary. But the strength of the Yen is also, in an odd way, a weakness.

Visiting a World Cup in Japan could be a fearfully expensive experience. Not for the official delegate and committee men, of course. Their expenses will be met by the federations and confederations. But they may bear in mind that these same federations will have to pay out significantly higher sums than anywhere else for advance visits and extra training facilities.

The Korean offer to foot the bill for extra acclimatisation costs – above and beyond the FIFA demands – is not insignificant. Naganuma recognises the problem and is particularly aware of the concerns expressed on behalf of fans the world over who, at present exchange levels, would find visiting Japan for the finals prohibitively expensive.

Naganuma told me: "We are having discussions with the hotel chains and travel and tourist organisations on just this subject. We appreciate why fans in other countries may be worried about this aspect of a World Cup in Japan. But we think – we hope – we can persuade our tourist organisations to keep their prices down. Certainly, if fans travel in package deals it will help them."

But not all fans like travel packages. Indeed, as I suggested to Naganuma, fans have grown increasingly suspicious that package deal operators use that exclusivity to put prices up rather than keep them down.

Naganuma said: "I think I can assure any fans who want to come to Japan for the World Cup that our range of hotel prices is equal to whatever you might find in a European capital, say London or Paris. The only advice I might offer is this: Don't eat in our hotel restaurants. Go downtown. They will find better prices and maybe more interesting menus reflecting our different regional cuisines."

So, if you thought it might make the difference between getting the World Cup and missing out, would you consider subsiding prices for visiting fans?

"Well, yes, I suppose we would have to consider it, if we could not get the agreements we wanted. But only as a last resort."

The tension building up in the bidding race, it may well be that even such 'last resort' considerations become public policy. Certainly, it would be good international public relations for the Japanese – better even, perhaps, than the promise of futuristic 'virtual reality' stadia.

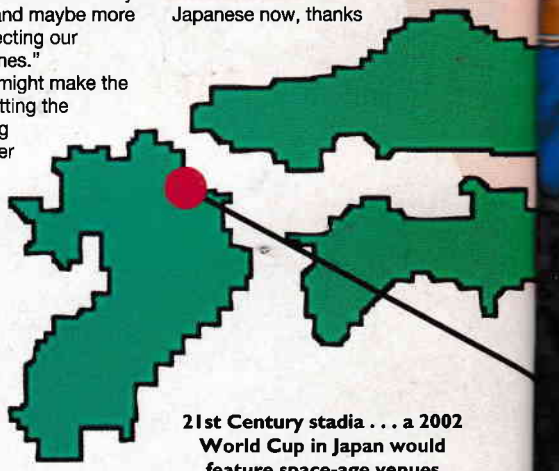
This was the gimmick contained in the formal bid document set before FIFA. Japan want to use the technological expertise of their electronics companies to set up giant, 3-D screens in their stadia to transmit images of matches being played elsewhere. This is why they can offer one million more fans, on-site, than the Koreans.

The Koreans have made much of their playing record, four appearances in the World Cup finals compared with none for Japan.

But, realistically, that is irrelevant when it comes to comparing notes on organisational and infrastructural potential.

Anyway, Naganuma himself was no slouch on a football pitch. He played for Japan in Dortmund at the 1953 Student Games and became head coach of the national team in 1962.

At the 1964 and 1968 Olympic Games – Japan won the bronze medal, remember, in Mexico – Naganuma was still senior coach. He knows the game inside out as do millions of other Japanese now, thanks to the J.League.



21st Century stadia . . . a 2002 World Cup in Japan would feature space-age venues

Naganuma's playing background also leads him to a sense of satisfaction over kick-off times. He said: "The World Cup in the United States was a High Noon tournament. Many of the best teams in the world were penalised because they had to play their matches at midday, in the greatest heat and greatest humidity, because that suited the television audiences in Europe – which are very important. We are happy that we can stage the matches at the best time of day, in the Japanese evening – which will be lunchtime in Europe."

Naganuma is confident there will be no repeat of the earthquake or terrorist incidents which have not enhanced Japan's international image. He says: "Of

JAPAN'S VENUES

FIFA's inspection team was scheduled to visit both Japan and South Korea in October and November. The Japanese 'site' schedule features 15 potential venues, ranging from Sapporo in the north of the archipelago to Oita in the south. The Final would be staged in the new stadium at Yokohama, the port of Tokyo.

CITY		CAPACITY
Sapporo	New	42,300
Aomori	New	41,716
Miyagi	New	49,281
Niigata	New	41,950
Ibaraki	Redeveloped	43,340
Saitama	New	63,060
Chiba	New	48,500
Yokohama	New	70,336
Shizuoka	New	49,730
Aichi	New	62,300
Kyoto	New	42,100
Osaka	Redeveloped	42,988
Kobe	Redeveloped	42,020
Hiroshima	Redeveloped	41,806
Oita	New	43,254

most

'We have the technology, the stadia and the enthusiasm of our people . . . It is logical for the next step to be welcoming the world . . . and the World Cup' – Japan FA president Ken Naganuma

TOKYO

course, we can offer no guarantees. But the seismology experts tell us that an earthquake such as Kobe [in which 5,000 people died] comes only once every 500 years. As for the terrorist attack on the Tokyo subway . . . well, the man who inspired this terrible act has been arrested by police. Almost every country has its terrorist troubles. We believe we can provide a World Cup quite as peaceful as any other country." Discussion over the comparative merits of Japan and Korea has been muddied by some politicians on both sides who have raised the possibility of a joint staging – particularly since FIFA voted to increase the number of finalists to 32.

Then, at political level, there has also been concern over the historical sensitivities and diplomatic niceties of such a clash with Korea. A Cabinet debate revealed a disturbing variety of approaches.

Foreign Minister Yohei Kono said he thought hosting the World Cup was a target Japan should pursue but not at the expense of friendship with the Koreans. Issei Inoue, the Post and Telecommunications Minister, also expressed mixed feelings, and came out in favour of a shared event. He appreciated that would need FIFA to change its statutes but thought that would help develop and improve relations between Tokyo and Seoul.

In the end, the Cabinet accepted a proposal by Construction Minister Yoshiro Mori that the Tokyo government should make a firm bid to host the event. He said: "To avoid a similar recurrence to Nagoya's failure to secure the 1988 Olympic Games (won by Seoul), our government should tackle the bid firmly."

That was good news for Naganuma. He says: "The idea of a joint hosting has been raised always by politicians for their own reasons. But we do not want a political event. The World Cup is the greatest sporting event there is and that is how we, in the Japan FA, view it.

"In any case, FIFA's statutes say only one country can host a World Cup – and there is no time in which those statutes can be changed, even if anyone wanted to do so. We are a footballing nation. Football touches every section of Japanese life since the game is part of the school curriculum. More than 12,000 teams compete annually in our schools championships. We are also the only Asian nation to have reached the final rounds of all three FIFA world championships this year.

"We have learned a great deal from holding the FIFA World Cup in 1979 and the under-17 championship in 1993 – and now we are ready for the greatest sports spectacle on earth."

Roy Hodgson is the man of the moment. He has made European Championship history with Switzerland; he is the new coach of Internazionale; and he will be the Englishman everyone wants to meet when the Swiss come to Wembley on November 15. Keir Radnedge reviews the rise and rise of the bus driver's son from south London . . .

An Englishman abroad

THE MOMENT when Internazionale decided Englishman Roy Hodgson was the man to turn the team around, the outcome of their pursuit was a racing certainty.

Hodgson had achieved wonders with the Swiss national team, handing them back their self-confidence in the international arena. But Hodgson is a man with proper, understandable ambitions. He has worked long and hard in the shadows to earn the right to coaching stardom and no country in Europe gratifies those ambitions like Italy . . . if you get it right.

The 48-year-old thinks he can. A pragmatist, a realist, Hodgson would not have accepted the job if he did not believe in his own ability. People have looked at the size of contracts – in Hodgson's case said to be around £1.4million for a two-year deal, more than double his Swiss salary – and moved for money alone. They are the men who have come unstuck. Those who run home with their reputations dented within a few years. But Hodgson has no intention of joining their ranks.

That is why, for all his dedication to the Swiss cause, he could not say no to Massimo Moratti after Ottavio Bianchi's inevitable dismissal following Inter's poor start to the league season and UEFA Cup elimination at the hands of Lugano.

As Hodgson said, after breaking the news to his Swiss Federation masters: "I realise it's a bad time but a chance like this might not come again."

Inter, to help ease the pain of parting, suggested they would be willing to allow him to continue in some consultancy or advisory role – if that was what it would take for the Swiss to release him now. That suited Hodgson, who had no wish to create any acrimony.

As he said: "Whatever the federation decides, it will be a good solution. But I can't turn down an offer from a club of Inter's calibre. That kind of gift doesn't fall into a trainer's lap every week. I am motivated by a real desire to get back to everyday work on the pitch. I'm not leaving to find a higher level of soccer. It's difficult in Europe at the moment to do much better than Switzerland."

Hodgson had become something of a folk hero in Switzerland after rekindling enthusiasm for football by steering the national side to the World Cup finals for the first time in 28 years and to the brink of a first-ever appearance in the finals of the European Championship.

His record is 21 wins, 10 draws and nine defeats since he quit Neuchatel Xamax in 1992, swapping jobs with Uli Stielike. But, more importantly, his team lost only two of 17 matches that really counted.

'I suppose my mum and dad would like me to go back to England but I have no inclination to do so . . . I don't want to be recognised everywhere I go on the streets of London'

Hodgson stamped his first imprint on the Continent when he coached Malmo FF to a string of Swedish titles. He has become fluent in Swedish, French and German and is well up in Italian thanks to his work in Switzerland.

Not that everyone was impressed with Hodgson's credentials. Doubters were predictable. After all, English players have had enough problems adjusting to Italian football and the coach's role is far more complex.

The last Englishman deemed worthy of Italian trust in the managerial ranks was former Newcastle player Jesse Carver at Roma and Juventus back in the 1950s. The prevailing continental image of English football as kick-and-rush and no technique has tarred every manager with the same brush.

Helenio Herrera, who coached Inter in their glory days in the 1960s, led the criticism, saying: "I have never known any really talented English coaches. Hodgson's arrival absolutely cannot be the best solution for Inter's problems. Hodgson does not know Italian football and, above all, he doesn't know Inter, a very difficult team to coach." Herrera added, with a faint smile: "However, as an Inter supporter, I hope I am wrong and therefore I wish Hodgson all the best."

He advised Hodgson to pay special attention to England midfielder Paul Ince, a major disappointment, saying: "Hodgson must work on Ince psychologically. Ince could be the leader of the team. If he does not do the business then everything becomes academic."

The Swiss were far more generous. One TV commentator, during the 3-0 win over Hungary which preceded confirmation of Hodgson's departure, hailed him as the "greatest man in the history of Swiss sport".

"Thanks Roy!" ran the message across the scoreboard at the Hardturm stadium as the players celebrated victory. "Roy's last masterpiece," proclaimed the German-language *Tages Anzeiger* the following morning. Switzerland's 3-0 victory wrapped up their European qualifying schedule and all but assured them of another trip to England – next summer.

Victory guaranteed them finishing level on points at the top of Group 3 although, if Turkey beat Sweden on November 15, the Swiss would drop into second place – where they would still probably qualify directly as one of the best runners-up. This latest achievement merely confirmed Hodgson's hero image.

"Thank you Roy Hodgson," said the newspaper *Blick*. "What a triumph for Roy and his Boys. We're on our way to England. Roy is likely to go to Milan. We are sad, Roy. But we understand you. Grazie e arrivederci."

Hodgson, the son of a London bus driver, has been nicknamed 'King Roy' and the 'new William Tell'. In a country not top-heavy with charismatic public figures, the Englishman was also voted top Swiss personality. He transformed the soccer squad from poor cousins of the skiing team into a well-coordinated, self-confident force in the European game.

He helped encourage

young players with great potential such as Ciri Sforza – who scored one of the goals against Hungary – and Stephane Chapuisat to develop into stars of the neighbouring Bundesliga in Germany.

Hodgson, from South London, was by his own admission no great shakes as a player, failing to make the professional grade with then Third Division Crystal Palace and moving on down to non-league Maidstone United before retiring at 28 and becoming a PE teacher. Then he went to South Africa with his friend Bob Houghton, playing for Berea Park, before earning fame and eventually fortune back in continental Europe.

Interestingly Hodgson, as he looks in at English football from outside, is not as depressed about England's own prospects for Euro '96 as most domestic critics. He says: "That goalless draw in Norway was a good result for England. I'm surprised people regard 0-0 in Norway as a bad result because we would have been delighted if Switzerland had done that. Norway are a difficult team to play – and don't forget it's a better result than under the previous England manager.

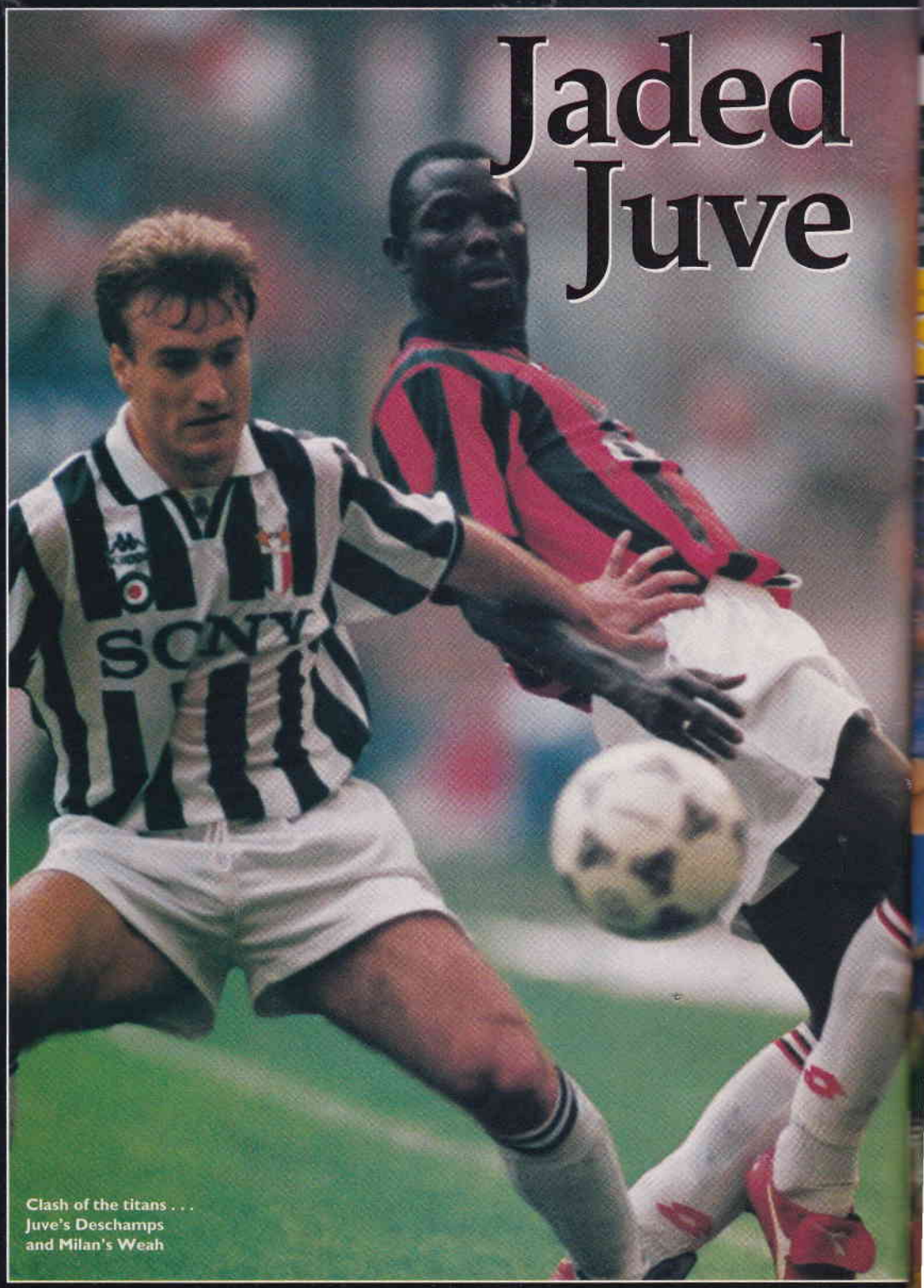
"I was with the England squad for two days in the summer for the Umbro Cup tournament when they played Sweden. They played very well to recover for a draw that night in Leeds and looked, basically, a good side. They'd be my hot favourites to win the European Championship next summer."

Hodgson has no regrets about having spent almost all his working life in football exile. He says: "I suppose my mum and dad would like me to go back to England but I have no inclination to do so. I don't want to be recognised everywhere I go on the streets of London but I do want to be able to ring the England manager and say: 'Can I come and see you?' and for him to say: 'Yes.' That's all the recognition I need."

That's also likely to be the least he achieves . . .

Jaded Juve

The champions are looking tired and vulnerable. Paddy Agnew asks: do the zebras have the hunger for the fight?



Clash of the titans . . . Juve's Deschamps and Milan's Weah

Are Juventus in crisis? Only two months into the season and already the reigning champions have discovered the truth of the old sporting cliche about the difficulties of defending a title.

In Italy, only one false step is needed for fans and media alike to start asking questions. Yet, in a two-week period, Juventus took three false steps, losing to Milan and Lazio in the League and being knocked out of the Italian Cup by Atalanta.

Those three defeats would in themselves have been enough to prompt a nationwide inquest but the nature of the third loss, a 4-0 drubbing from Lazio, positively set the alarm bells ringing throughout the sports media.

Even the impressive start in the Champions League, with three straight wins against Borussia Dortmund, Steaua Bucharest and Rangers, has not been enough to silence Juventus' critics.

As of now, it is too early to decide whether the Juventus defeats represent merely a temporary hiccup or a permanent decline. Yet nobody who, like your correspondent, watched their 4-0 whitewash by Lazio would be tempted to lightly dismiss their current crisis.

The side who won last season's championship thanks to an English-style 'get stuck in' attitude that made the most of the three-points-for-a-win system has begun to look a little cautious, even 'Italian' – dare one say it. Against Lazio, the champions struck a surprisingly cautious note, sticking their head up above the trenches only when the cause was already hopelessly compromised at 2-0 down.

Juventus still look like a good side, one that had long ago learned the workings of their own inner geometry off by heart. However, the suspicion remains that the side is tired, mentally and physically.

Goalkeeper Angelo Peruzzi thinks the former could be the problem, saying: "After winning the title, something strange happened in our heads. We think we are making twice the effort and yet we produce only half as much. Perhaps we're simply no longer hungry, perhaps it's a subconscious reaction on our part . . . It's simply not acceptable for us to lose three games in two weeks. I repeat, our problems lie in our heads, not our legs."

Sixteen first-team players with muscular, joint or ligament problems of some sort would suggest that, whatever the truth about the mental well-being, there is also reason for concern about their physical well-being. The injury list has certainly been a long one but club spokesmen dismiss categorically suggestions that the heavy workload of the last 15 months has finally begun to wear down the players.

Striker Fabrizio Ravanelli tends to agree with his team-mate Peruzzi when arguing that the problems are more mental than physical: "Perhaps we're a bit tired since we've played a lot of games close together [in the first two months], but what we're missing is the killer instinct of last season."

While Juventus struggle, temporarily at least, arch rivals Milan and Parma have gone about their business with customary regularity, ending up joint leaders by the end of October.

Attentive *WORLD SOCCER* readers will recall that your correspondent made so bold as to tip Parma for the title before the season began. Nothing seen thus far changes that.

Milan, despite defeating two of their immediate title rivals in AS Roma and Juventus and notwithstanding the impressive start in Italian soccer by their Liberian/French striker George Weah, still look surprisingly unconvincing on occasions.

Not only the defeat by Bari reported last month, but also a 1-1 draw with Vicenza, a shaky second half against Juventus when the champions came within centimetres of a last-minute equaliser through Sergio Porrini and a 1-1 Milan derby draw with Internazionale all lead to the conclusion that Milan, 95-96 vintage, are not unbeatable.

The Milan derby in particular provided food for thought. As Inter back room boy and ex-captain, Giacinto Facchetti, put it afterwards: "For the first time in years, Inter gave Milan a run for their money from start to finish of a derby."

What Facchetti meant was that for the first time in years, Inter took the game to Milan and were never out of the match, never forced to rely on the occasional Milan mistake or on a flash of individual Inter brilliance that came against the run of play.

Clearly, much of the explanation for Milan's derby performance is to be found in the immediate improvements effected at Inter by new English coach Roy Hodgson *(see interview, page 16)*. Yet Milan do not wholly convince.

For the time being, though, the Inter future suddenly looks a deal brighter. Hodgson's arrival, indicated last month, has appeared to have had an immediately galvanising effect. In his first 12 days with the club in late October, Hodgson had to prepare for league games against Lazio (0-0) and Milan, as well as an Italian Cup tie with third division Fiorenzuola (won 2-1).

Given the results, Hodgson was understandably pleased, commenting after the derby: "I'm proud of this Inter. In just two weeks of work, the lads have got to a level where they can hold their own with a side like Milan. Looking at the two sides on the pitch, there was no big difference and if we'd won the game, nobody would have said that we'd robbed it."

Hodgson was certainly thrown in at the deep end in having to face Milan in the all-important derby fixture within days of taking over at Inter. Yet, the result itself and the nature of Inter's performance suggest that the Englishman is going to make a more than decent fist of what has become the hottest seat in Italian soccer.

While attention has focused on the two Milan teams and on Juventus, challengers Parma have quietly motored back up to the top of the table with wins against Fiorentina, Padova, Udinese and Piacenza as well as an away draw with Roma. A remarkable 3-0 Cup-winners Cup first round first leg defeat away to Swedish side Halmstad, however, rather blotted the Parma copybook. More will be known about them by the end of November when they are due to face both Milan and Juventus.

Finally, bad news from the Third Division where fierce riots broke out after a goalless derby draw between Nocerina and Savoia, two small clubs from the economically depressed and mafia infested Campania region around Naples. 41 people were injured and 16 fans arrested during riots in which cars were destroyed, rubbish bins set on fire and one man was shot.

Such riots are no novelty in Nocera. Ten years ago, a game between Nocera and Palermo was suspended following an invasion of the pitch by Nocerina fans seconds after Palermo had scored from the penalty spot.

That invasion led to a seven-match ground ban for Nocerina. Three years later, the club went into liquidation only to be reborn in 1990 working their way up from amateur level back to the Third Division, and back to riots.

Plus ca change . . .

Silver streak . . . Ravanelli strikes against Rangers

Samp of approval

Nick Bidwell on Christian Karembeu's successful switch from France to Italy

THESE are exciting times for Christian Karembeu, one of the outstanding midfielders on the European scene. Not only is he helping to push the French Euro 96 express back on the rails, he has been in sparkling form for Sampdoria as well.

Christian soldier . . . Karembeu in action for Sampdoria

Samp made a wise investment when they paid £3million to take Karembeu from the French champions, Nantes, last summer. While other expensive imports, Ince and Stoichkov for example, blow hot and cold, Karembeu has looked the part consistently.

He made an impressive debut against Roma, scored twice in a 3-0 victory over title contenders Parma, and with a string of all-action performances he has soon become a hero among Samp fans.

"Many people in France could not understand why I gave up the chance to play in the Champions League with Nantes and chose to go to Sampdoria, when they hadn't qualified for Europe," he says. "After seven good years I wanted a change, a fresh challenge.

"I'm the sort of person who gets bored if I stay in one place for a long time. I'm not bothered about the fact that I won't be competing in Europe for a while. We'll be there next season.

"And there's no shortage of big games in Italy. Every week I'm playing against some of the top men in the world. That's why I came here.

"The emphasis is on spectacular, attacking football, which suits me perfectly. There are many talented youngsters here, and some very experienced players too. Samp are definitely going places."

That is a brave forecast after the summer sales of players such as Gullit, Platt, Vierchowod, Jugovic and Lombardo. But with Karembeu and former Ajax midfielder Clarence Seedorf settling down so well, the club remain a force.

The coach, Sven-Goran Eriksson, says: "We are rebuilding with youth. And in Christian and Clarence we have two of the most gifted young midfielders in Europe.

"Christian, we thought, had a lot of potential. He is athletic, never stops running, and is technically outstanding. He's a dynamo, the sort of forceful player who makes things happen."

Karembeu comes from New Caledonia, a French dependency in the South Pacific, and was one of the most outspoken critics of France's recent nuclear tests.

Karembeu seems certain to be in England next summer as part of France's Euro '96 squad. He crowned a brilliant individual display in Bucharest recently with his first goal for the national team.

He says: "We knew we had to win in Romania to keep alive our chances of getting to the finals, and right from the start we took the game to them. We were much more determined, and played extremely well as a unit.

"Romania hadn't lost at home for five years, and were quarter-finalists in the last World Cup. That made our victory all the sweeter.

"Scoring in such a vital match was a very emotional moment for me - one I'll never forget."

France appear to have found a successor to Jean Tigana, who contributed so much to their European Championship triumph in 1984.

"I'm flattered to be compared with Tigana," says Karembeu. "But I've only played for France 10 times, three as substitute. I'm far from certain of my place, and I take nothing for granted."

Clemente's

The national side, coached by Javier Clemente (far right), have already qualified for Euro '96. But, asks Graham Turner, can the awkward under-achievers succeed this time where they have failed in the past?

Back in favour . . . Alfonso has been restored to the national side

SPAIN were one of the two countries to secure their Euro '96 place with a fixture to spare, and the question now is whether Javier Clemente's side are capable of throwing the proverbial Spaniard in the works.

Their failure to appear in Sweden in 1992 represented Spain's one and only big-event absence since 1976, but every appearance on a major stage reinforced their status as under-achievers par excellence.

Clemente, who made his debut as national team manager with a 1-0 win over England in September 1992, looked like casting aside the image in the USA last year, only for Italy to snatch an unlikely eleventh-hour victory in a quarter-final they seemed doomed to lose.

Before the World Cup finals, Federation president Angel Maria Villa, had taken pressure off Clemente by extending his contract until 1996, and he has now repeated the formula by offering another two-year "stay of sentence".

Villar's desire to minimise his subordinate's angst produces a knock-on effect, with Clemente's abrasive character giving the headline writers much to digest.

The Raul thing . . . Real's teenager hit a hat-trick in the Champions League

The trip to England will be a new scenario for the habitual verbal skirmishing with the media he cannot abide, such as the Madrid sports paper *AS* or the *SER* radio network. Clemente loves his football but, as the Americans say, he also loves kicking some AS.

This explains why predictions of Spain's role in England depend on who you're talking to. If you like attractive football, say the detractors, steer clear of Spain.

Others would stake a few pesetas on Spain winning for the first time since 1964, and the celestial script-writers would doubtless pencil in a final against England which would resurrect memories of the epic battles between Clemente and Terry Venables when they were in charge of local enemies Espanyol and Barcelona respectively.

But one thing nobody will argue about is that the qualifying campaign has confirmed Spain's status as damned awkward to play against. A nasty little combination of physical presence, skill and runs from a midfield devilishly hard to pick up.

Clemente has used 60 players in just over three years and the only survivors from his debut formation against England are goalkeeper Andoni Zubizarreta and right-back/midfielder 'Chapi' Ferrer. But before that clash in Santander, Clemente had dedicated most of the summer of '92 to observing Spain's gold-medal Olympic squad, and Ferrer, Amavisca, Luis Enrique, Abelardo, Manjarin and maybe even Kiko – the striker who has made such a bright start at Atletico Madrid – could make the cross-Channel journey.

'I would put us on the same level as Germany, Croatia and Italy' – Javier Clemente

The most curious case is that of Alfonso, who won five caps between September 1992 and September 1993 and is back after two years in dry dock, during which he had a cruciate ligament op and a controversial transfer from Real Madrid to Betis.

Caminero and Guerrero are likely to continue as the creative lynch-pins in midfield, but Clemente's biggest headache is finding an effective replacement for Julio Salinas in the target-man role, so crucial for holding up the ball and dragging markers far enough out of position for the midfielders to burst through.

Salinas, now 33, was advised by Clemente to join Sporting Gijon rather than stay on the sidelines at John Toshack's Deportivo, the insinuation being that if he is match-sharp he will be considered for the

case

Euro squad. On the other hand, the fingers-and-thumbs striker with 22 goals in 54 games has not been in Clemente's starting line-ups since March and, believe it or not, has not played a full game since the 3-1 win over Bolivia in Chicago on June 27 last year.

"Overall, our main virtues have to be commitment and the will to work hard," says Clemente. "If we look at Germany, Croatia and Italy – very good teams, all three – I would put Spain on the same level. We're better than them in some respects but in others they are superior to us.

"I would argue, for example, that nobody in Europe has better central pivots in both the defence and the midfield than we do. On the other hand, several teams have more resources than we do in attack."

Other questions remain unanswered. Fran for Spain is the Iberian vox populi's equivalent of Le Tissier for England, but Deportivo's left-sided playmaker is taking time to digest Clemente's recipe.

Fran is pencilled into the space vacated by Beguiristain: he and his former bosom buddies at Barcelona, Bakero and Goikoetxea, are the most relevant World Cup performers set to be pensioned off.

Clemente admits that he has a list of 25 which he will find hard to prune back to 20. In any case he now has little time for experiments. The 22-club First Division not only brings his Basque blood to the boil, it reduces his preparations to a couple of friendlies against Norway on February 7 (home) and April 24 (away). The marathon League season ends just 13 days before Euro '96 kicks off.

The smart money to win it has not been going on Real Madrid. When the defending champions went down 4-3 in Valencia there was a rush to the record books – which confirmed it was their worst start for 65 years.

The 6-1 win over Ferencvaros was, ironically, watched by only 37,000 spectators, just over half the capacity stipulated by UEFA for European matches. The absentees missed a treat and the Ultra groups who had been unfurling racist banners against Jorge Valdano hurriedly rolled them up again.

The hero of the night was young Raul, who scored a hat-trick and set up two of the other three. Alfredo Di Stefano and 'Pancho' Puskas, noted the historians on the following day, did not manage a hat-trick until they were 32. Raul is 18.

This was the most spectacular feat in a week when the five Spanish clubs all won in Europe, including Deportivo against the Turks of Trabzonspor which took, momentarily at least, the pressure off John Toshack.

Other managers will not look back at a red letter week. Sevilla scraped a 1-0 home win over Olympiakos just 24 hours after reserve team coach Juan Carlos Alvarez had taken over the hot seat from Toni Oliveiro, the affable Portuguese accused of being too affable for his own – and the players' – good. Attempts to sweet-talk Jose Antonio Camacho out of Espanyol and into Sevilla have so far fallen on stony ground.

Carlos Almar was simultaneously booted out by Celta and replaced by Fernando Santos, the manager who had been kicked out by local rivals Compostela at the end of last season. Oddly, a 4-1 home defeat by Compostela led to Pedro Zabalza's dismissal by Rayo Vallecano. They immediately flew Uli Stielike to Tenerife to watch the side scramble a 2-2 draw, but he was so critical of Rayo's playing style that club president Maria Teresa Rivero told him to stuff a sock in his mouth. She subsequently made him an offer he could most definitely refuse and Stielike, no bootlicker, made no excuses and left.

Former Santander, Barcelona and Atletico Madrid winger Marcos Alonso then arrived to make a managerial debut barely two months after obtaining his coaching badge.

But all roads seemed to lead back to Real Madrid. That 6-1 win, reminiscent of the grand Real of yesteryear, was manna from heaven for Ramon Mendoza, four days prior to yet another of his long list of thorny annual general meetings.

Just before kick-off, however, Valdano and some of his players were sitting in the press officer's room watching Betis achieve a spectacular 3-1 victory in Kaiserslautern. Alfonso scored two impressive goals, thus allowing the opposition to use his name as a weapon against Mendoza's decision to sell him to Betis, albeit with a buy-back clause. But more about the Real AGM later . . .

Heading for England . . . Real Madrid's Luis Enrique

Ban for Cruyff

JOHAN CRUYFF received a five-game touchline ban and was fined £2,600 for insulting gestures and verbal abuse directed at the referee in the League match against Valencia.

The League disciplinary committee found the Barcelona boss guilty of sticking his finger in the air and tapping his cheek to indicate that he thought the referee was cheating in his side's 1-0 home win. Cruyff is alleged to have shouted "son of a bitch" and "bastard" at the official after being shown the red card.

Odd match in a grass court

AT Nou Camp you can say 'Muchas . . . ias' – just don't mention the grass.

One of the most bizarre lawsuits ever is under way, because nine Barcelona fans decided to press charges against the company who laid a new 'carpet' in the stadium during the summer of 1994. The underlay was all wrong, claim the disgruntled supporters, so no wonder the pile keeps coming off in socking great lumps.

Their legal claim against the offenders is that the players can't play nice touch-football and the fans are therefore, milud, not obtaining right and proper value for money.

To everybody's surprise, the judge at the preliminary hearing decided not to turf the claim out of court, so the toga-brigade are now engaged in some serious – and costly – grass-root research into what has gone wrong beneath some of the country's most illustrious studs. Johan Cruyff and several of his players have been called to give evidence, along with the president of Catalunya's wife, Maria Ferrusola.

To everybody's embarrassment, she turns out to be a major shareholder in the company responsible for the patchy pitch.

The case could go down in legal history as the first literal discussion of sod's law.

Viola can't lift a spade

MENTION Juninho and you're unlikely to provoke more than a shrugged shoulder. Maybe two. Brazilians are most definitely not flavour of the month in Spain.

After Romario's lessons in apathy at Nou Camp, Viola hasn't been digging up any trees at Valencia. He seems unwilling to lift a spade. The club's most expensive signing of all time has, thus far, turned out to be anything but a workaholic.

Most of Viola's efforts have been diverted towards negotiating a new improved contract and a new, if not improved, car for his girlfriend.

Having been fined and put on the transfer list, he did enough to persuade Luis Aragones to include him in the starting line-up and then did enough to wring some heartfelt applause from the crowd during the 1-1 home draw with Betis.

Seeler's mission

Arthur Rotmil on the famous name hoping to revive Hamburg's fortunes

Another of Germany's all-time greats, Uwe Seeler, has taken over as president of his former home town club, Hamburger SV, mirroring Franz Beckenbauer's acceptance of the presidency at Bayern Munich.

HSV are second to bottom in the Bundesliga, without a win in nine matches, and were knocked out of the Cup in the first round by Second Division Arminia Bielefeld. Now they have they turned to their most famous son.

Seeler lost the first round in the power struggle because treasurer Gerhard Flomm and vice-president Hans Schumann refused to resign. German clubs are run by committees elected by members for a specific period, and directors cannot be sacked unless they commit a serious offence.

However, Flomm and Hamburg president Ronald Wulff received death threats and decided to call it a day eventually. Seeler then put out an ultimatum, saying: "Either all my demands are met and a new committee installed, or I will not accept the presidency." He described HSV as "sadly only a small provincial club acting big" and claimed it had to be completely reorganised.

Seeler's first act was to fire team manager Benno Mohlmann. He too spent the best part of his career at HSV, as a player and coach, becoming chief team coach in 1992. Hamburg have not won anything for eight years, and under Mohlmann they never finished higher than 11th.

Seeler, an honorary club member for life, was repeatedly asked to take over the chairmanship. But what has persuaded him to walk into the den of turmoil, intrigue, hypocrisy, personal animosity, sporting and financial disasters – in short, total chaos?

"The Hamburg club is my life," Seeler said. "I could not simply stand by and watch this great institution disintegrating. I would never have forgiven myself if HSV went under. No, with a new team manager and possibly new players, we shall attempt to salvage some pride by making a determined effort to avoid relegation, which would be unthinkable."

The man now in charge of the team is Felix Magath, 43 times capped and another loyal club member. But his appointment is only temporary, with HSV looking for a more experienced coach.

Uwe Seeler is still a folk hero in Hamburg. Even today they still call him affectionately 'Uns Uwe' (Our Uwe). Apart from being a model sportsman, he personified all those qualities which the German people like to admire in themselves: courage, tenacity, dedication and the will to win.

He was an old-fashioned centre-forward, fearless in the penalty area, brilliant in the air, famous for his acrobatic mid-air volleys, deft flicks and powerful two-footed shooting.

Seeler made his debut for Germany at 18, against England at Wembley, and between 1954 and 1970 he played 72 internationals, scoring 43 goals. He and Pele are the only men to score in four World Cup tournaments. He was Footballer of the Year three times and won the Federal Service Cross.

Nobody in Hamburg has forgotten that Seeler rejected persistent offers from Italian clubs and continued to play, out of loyalty to his club, as a part-timer for £12 a week; German football was largely semi-professional until 1963. By the time he hung up his boots in 1972 he was deservedly affluent. His earning potential had improved dramatically when he was appointed by adidas as general representative for northern Germany, in 1965, when the first professional league was created. With HSV he signed a contract which far surpassed those agreed with other players.

Seeler moved into a large house set in spacious grounds. He invested wisely, owning other houses, garages, petrol stations, land, even branching out into shirt manufacture, but adidas remains his most lucrative job.

Now, at the age of 59, Uwe Seeler has achieved his life's ambition – he is the chief of Hamburger Sport Verein. But will the new venture end in glory or tears?

Hungry for Hamburg . . . Seeler in his playing days

Germany

Berti banks on blocks

TWO WINS in three days probably assured the German national team's qualification for the European Championship.

A 6-1 victory over Moldova at home, followed by a 2-1 win in Cardiff, brought the Germans level on points with group leaders Bulgaria. These two meet in Berlin in the final match.

Germany have the best record in this competition – winners in 1972 and 1980 and runners-up in 1976 and 1992. But whether this present team can repeat these successes is another matter. Not every player has been producing the consistent form that will be required in the final tournament, with three games in a week.

In recent matches coach Berti Vogts developed a tendency to form blocks from the two leading clubs, champions Borussia Dortmund and leaders Bayern Munich, which proved a highly successful ploy. Against Georgia (won 4-1) he used six players from Bayern and three from Borussia. Against Moldova there were again nine from those two clubs, and in Wales eight.

Vogts was part of the German block formation which brought success at the highest level. He was a World Cup winner in 1974, when manager Helmut Schon used six players from Bayern and two each from Eintracht Frankfurt and Borussia Monchengladbach.

Germany's first World Cup triumph was achieved in 1954 with five players from Kaiserslautern, while their best-ever side, winners of the 1972 European Championship, featured six Bayern men and three from Borussia Monchengladbach.

Vogts explains: "The cohesion is easier to achieve because the understanding among the players, the automatic movement, is improved through daily contact in training or club matches. Even if we play tactically slightly differently than Borussia or Bayern, my players are experienced enough to fit into any system."

Germany's and Dortmund's most consistent player, Matthias Sammer, has been voted Footballer of the Year for 1995. He has been capped 36 times in the all-German team and 23 times for the old GDR, and has perfected the art of libero as perhaps no other player since the great Franz Beckenbauer invented the role.

Sammer was the first player from East Germany to appear in the united team and is the first from the East to become Footballer of the Year. He won the poll, organised by the country's leading sports publication, *Kicker*, with 424 votes, ahead of Jurgen Klinsmann on 393 and Mario Basler with 60.

Bayern Munich, who stormed away with a Bundesliga record of seven victories from the start, were checked first by Dortmund, who won 3-1 at home, and then by Borussia Monchengladbach, 2-1 in Munich.

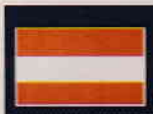
Problems are mounting behind the scenes, with several players unhappy and wanting to leave. Swiss international Alain Sutter, who felt new team manger Otto Rehhagel had not given him a fair chance, and subsequently lost his place in the national side, was the first to go, to Freiburg. "The boss never really explained to me why he didn't pick me," complained Sutter.

Mehmet Scholl also fell out with Rehhagel. "He treats me like an apprentice," said Scholl. "We have been playing for eight weeks and still have no clear tactics."

Jean-Pierre Papin's days in Munich seem numbered. "I find it maddening that Rehhagel never explains his selections – I can't talk to him any more," he fumed.

More sensations in the Cup: after Bayern Munich (against Fortuna Dusseldorf) and holders Monchengladbach (at Leverkusen), the fancied Werder Bremen also crashed out, to Nurnberg.

ARTHUR ROTMIL



Austria

Rapid running away

Rapid Vienna are on course to clinch their 30th League title with some style

Having won both crucial games against holders Austria Salzburg, Rapid Vienna took revenge on promoted provincials SV Ried, the only side to have beaten them in their initial burst to the top, winning 4-1.

Then, after 10 games without loss, they crashed 4-1 to FK Austria. The Rapidler also fell 4-1 in the second round of the OFB-Cup, against Admira-Wacker, largely because manager Ernst Dokupil rested seven players following their European exertions against Romania's Ploesti.

The surprise of the championship is the potent challenge mounted by provincial clubs such as Sturm Graz and Grazer AK.

Grazer are performing brilliantly under German team boss Hans Ulrich Thomale. The star is bustling centre-forward Herfried Sabitzer, who came from Linzer ASK and shot to the top of the scoring list. Meanwhile the fancied outfits have been left behind.

FC Tirol, floundering in the lower reaches of the table, will probably part company with Senegalese striker Sammy Sane, last season's top scorer in the League. He lost his place under new manager Constantini and is now looking for a new club.

Second Division FC Linz reported the most remarkable signing of the season so far! Mexican international Hugo Sanchez, 37, has joined them after a summer stint in America. Sanchez scored twice on his debut, a 4-0 win over First Vienna. Expect a few more back-flips yet.

ARTHUR ROTMIL

Switzerland

Hard act to follow

ROY HODGSON, who has taken the Swiss national side to their first World Cup finals for 28 years and now to the brink of the European Championship finals, intends to continue looking after the team as a part-timer until the conclusion of Euro '96.

That's the good news. The bad news is that after that he will be lost to Swiss football, having agreed to become Internazionale's coach.

His appointment was greeted with protests from Italian club managers because the Italian FA ruled recently that no manager could be in charge of two clubs during one season. This is to prevent a club from firing their coach and hiring another still under contact elsewhere.

Inter did not think this would affect them, because Hodgson was employed outside Italy.

Secondly, Hodgson does not hold an Italian coaching licence and may need, initially at least, a qualified assistant to 'officially' conduct training in order that Inter are seen to comply with the formalities. Similarly, at Sampdoria the Swede Sven Goran Eriksson does not hold an Italian licence.

Meanwhile, the Swiss side are now looking for another manager to fill the huge gap Hodgson will leave.

"If we find a successor by January then we shall engage him for the 1998 World Cup," said FA director Giangiorgio Spiess.

In the championship, title-holders Grasshopper welcomed back the Franco-Argentinian Nestor Subiat four months after he suffered a torn achilles tendon. In his first full match he scored the opening goal in a 2-0 win over Sion.

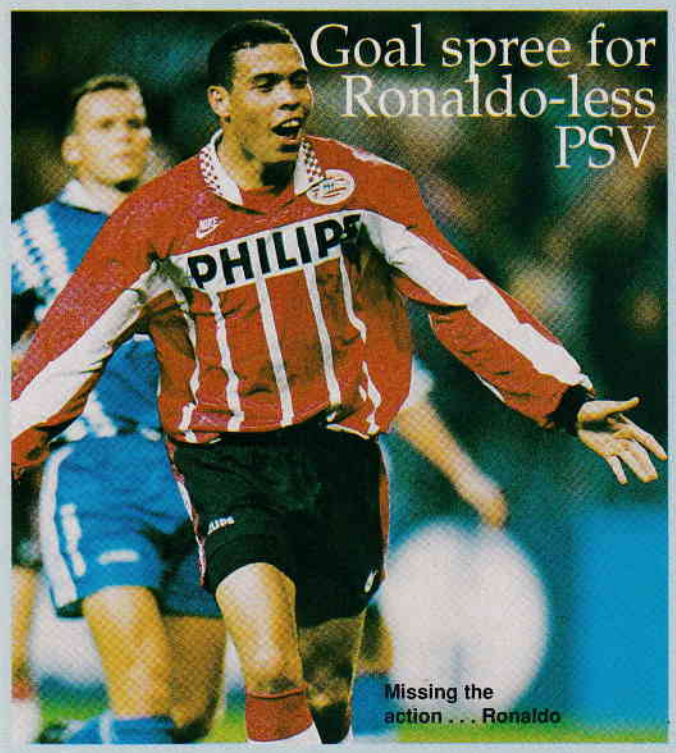
Hoppers lost to their bogey team, Servette, just as they did in the first match, by 2-0, but held on to top place ahead of Neuchatel and Sion.

ARTHUR ROTMIL

Back in frame . . . Nestor Subiat

Holland

Goal spree for Ronaldo-less PSV



Missing the action . . . Ronaldo

One player doesn't make a team. Influence, yes. But any club that relies on one player is no longer a team.

PSV know all about this. As journalists from all over the world continued to write about Ronaldo, the brilliant young Brazilian forward, PSV managed to score 16 goals in three games without him.

Ronaldo was injured in a friendly game for Brazil, and PSV coach Dick Advocaat, while admitting he "knew the score" as an ex-international manager, was not happy at the way in which Ronaldo appeared to put Brazil before PSV, even in friendly matches.

Advocaat and the rest of Eindhoven still have a lot of respect for the footballing ability of Ronaldo, but without him the team hit all those goals, including the five away against Leeds United.

That was just what the coach – and the players – needed to convince them that PSV were coming good as a team. After the Leeds game, PSV managed a 7-1 home win over Groningen.

Blaming lack of success on the coach is not always the answer. Feyenoord learned this after sacking Willem Van Henegem. New coach Arie Haan was more than a little happy when he saw his boys pick up a two-goal lead in the first six minutes against Ajax, where Haan was yet another product of the famous football school.

But Ajax kept their cool and came back to win 4-2, which could be described as further proof that while they are basically a young team, they have grown up in a football sense.

The Feyenoord goals ended Ajax goalkeeper Edwin Van der Sar's record of 845 minutes of club football without conceding a goal. So it is hardly surprising that Ajax manager Louis Van Gaal and his assistant Gereard Van der Lem have had their contracts extended to 1997.

The Feyenoord result and the new contracts came at a time when Ajax were facing up to the fact that Marcio Santos will probably be missing for some time after being injured playing for Brazil.

Van Gaal knew all about Frank De Boer as a man-marker and promptly arranged for Kiki Musampa, an 18-year-old midfielder, to be tried as a defender in the second team. The Ajax football school could well be a winner yet again.

The Dutch FA, as well as top clubs, is getting tough with idiots claiming to be genuine supporters who are giving clubs a bad name.

The FA has introduced a system that means an automatic fine of 25,000 guilders for a club whose fans misbehave. That amount is doubled if trouble occurs again. That includes chanting racist abuse at players.

Ajax have banned five so-called supporters for life after serious misconduct. Two had attacked an FC Twente steward before the game with Ajax. The other three had attacked a tram driver in town.

ERIC NICHOLLS

France

All change!

Andre Duclos on a sudden revival in the fortunes of Aime Jacquet's national team

SUDDENLY, a great beam of light! Impressive victory, against all odds, 3-1 over powerful Romania in Bucharest. Proving, perhaps, that the 10-goal romp against poor little Azerbaijan in the previous match was not the meaningless affair it seemed at the time.

It gave our previously ailing team some shooting boots and, together with UEFA Cup success for Bordeaux and Lyon, lifted morale. Aime Jacquet, the butt of such sustained and disdainful criticism, suddenly looks a shrewd and successful team manager. How things can change!

Jacquet, give him credit, had had the guts to change his team around, and to give sacred cows short shrift. Eric Cantona, for whom he has seemed to make so many allowances, was back for Manchester United but was not recalled for France. David Ginola, hardly bosom buddies with Cantona, was playing well for Newcastle but had been less effective for his country. In Bucharest, Jacquet gambled on taking Desailly out of midfield and deploying his powerful presence in the back four, plainly relying on the equally forceful Christian Karembeu, who like Desailly can play either midfield or stopper, to provide the drive in midfield.

How well it worked! Thuram gave up his midfield spot to Karembeu, and did not get on until near the end, in place of Zidane, who had scored the third goal 11 minutes earlier. Karembeu had scored the all-important first, after 29 minutes, at a time when Romania were emphatically calling the tune.

Papin was not called upon in either of the last two France games, in which the lively performance of the strikers suggest that he may have to wait a while yet. Jacquet, though, had honeyed words for him.

"I'm touched by Jean-Pierre," he said. "He stands for a decade in our football. He'll give something to the game. Others who speak loudly will never give it anything. He was perfect to lead the rising generation, above all operating in such a tough position. Then he had a terrible blow, for him and for us. He's overcome it, and today he is really happy. That's why I believe in him."

After 27 minutes of the second half in Bucharest, Jacquet sent on the 27-year-old Michael Madar – some symmetry there – for his first cap, replacing Christophe Dugarry, whose blocked shot just before half-time had led to a goal for Djorkaeff.

A very happy Madar attributed his call-up to the two goals he had scored in the previous League game for Monaco at Nantes, though Jacquet told him he had been following his form for weeks.

"I have my style," he says. "I go right, I go left, I get myself free. But you need 11 men. I can't do anything on my own." When asked if he would have preferred to be picked when younger, he replied that 27 is not so old. These coming years, he insists, are the best for an attacker.

And then there is Florian Maurice, the immediate object of interest from Inter's new manager, Roy Hodgson, who went to watch him play for Lyon almost as soon as he was appointed to his new post.

Maurice, who has been leading the scorers in Division One, was only 17 when Lyon last played in European competition. He was in the third division, or reserve, side and just on the brink of breaking into the senior squad. Now, at 21, he cannot be far off the national side.

Bordeaux's Zinedine Zidane is already there. A couple of match-saving goals on his international debut showed that he has big-match temperament.

Modestly, he emphasises that he was playing only because Djorkaeff was unfit. Now there is room for both of them, and none *pro-tem* for Cantona, Papin and Ginola!

Man for the job . . . Zidane has the beating of Dan Petrescu

Republic of Ireland

Down to the wire again

JACK CHARLTON has taken Republic of Ireland teams to the finals of three of the four major tournaments he has contested in nearly 10 years as manager.

Each time, in two World Cups and one European Championship, qualification was decided in the final game in the group. And it's down to the wire again as Charlton aims to finish his active career on a high by taking his men to the Euro '96 finals, to be staged in his native England.

In November 1987 a goal by Scotland's Gary Mackay in Sofia meant that the Irish qualified for the 1988 Euro tournament, instead of Bulgaria.

Qualification for the country's first World Cup came in the last game of the group, in Malta in November 1989. And in November two years ago, at inhospitable Windsor Park, Belfast, Alan McLoughlin's late goal was enough to put the team on the plane to USA '94.

So November has been a good month for Charlton and his team. The only disappointment was in 1991, when Gary Lineker's goal for England in Poznan cancelled out the Republic's 3-1 away success against Turkey, in the qualification tournament for the 1992 Euro event.

Charlton's reign may end after the forthcoming match against Portugal in Lisbon, when Paul McGrath is likely to set a record of 79 caps. But if the Irish win and top their group, Charlton will stay until after the finals. Even if they don't win, they could still get second place, and a possible play-off, if Northern Ireland beat Austria on the same night.

Joe Kinnear of Wimbledon remains favourite to replace Charlton, with Kenny Dalglish, Mick McCarthy and Liam Brady all having been mentioned. But do not forget that 10 years ago, when Eion Hand quit as manager, Charlton was not on the bookies' lists. The FAI Player of the Year seems sure to be from Aston Villa – McGrath, Steve Staunton or Andy Townsend.

SEAN CREEDON

Belgium

Lierse lead the way

AJAX apart, there can be few better records anywhere in Europe over the past few months than that held by Lierse.

Despite going out of the UEFA Cup against Benfica, losing 2-1 at home and 3-1 in the Stadium of Light, the little-town club from a few miles outside Brussels have made up for a disappointing start by surging up the Belgian League.

The team, coached by former international full-back Eric Gerets and captained by 36-year-old veteran defender Eddy Snelders, remain joint top after eight wins, three draws and two defeats from 13 league games. Gerets says: "As we finished fifth last season I knew that we hadn't suddenly become an awful team. It was very important that we won against Lommel. We did that without playing particularly well but once you get the confidence, things get easier."

Gerets brought in the Gent defender, Bart De Roover, in the summer but their rise up the table to joint top has been all the more surprising considering that Norwegian midfielder Kjetil Rekdal is their only international. Striker Dirk Huysmans did not figure in Belgium's 2-0 win in Armenia – where PSV striker Luc Nilis scored both goals – after being called up for the first time by national coach Paul Van Himst. The only other Lierse players with recent representative honours are Belgian Under-21 pair Bob Peeters, a striker, and midfielder Karel Snoeckx.

NICHOLAS HARLING

Portugal

Spirits up as Robson returns

BOBBY ROBSON made a welcome return to FC Porto after three months off to have treatment for facial cancer – and spirits rose accordingly.

His club had been well below their normal form during his absence, and some fans with short memories had been booing the players they had recently adored, notably during the home defeat by Panathinaikos in the Champions League. A few days later, however, a Robson-led Porto crushed the bottom club, Campomaiorense, 5-0, and the sun was shining again.

Robson's delight was slightly tempered by the fact that Campo's manager is Manuel Fernandes, who was No. 2 to Robson during his time at Sporting Lisbon.

Times are hard for Belenenses, the only club other than Benfica, Sporting and Porto to win the Portuguese championship. They did so back in 1946 and ever since then they have dreamed of a repeat. That seems unlikely, although they have returned to the top division after relegation. Money – or lack of it – is one problem. They owe the taxman, the phone company and others, including players. Emerson, who left Belenenses for Porto, claims he is due two months' wages, and hopes to get the money without legal action. Bino, also with Porto, is rather more militant. "I'm still owed a considerable amount, and I intend to take the directors to court. Whenever I try to contact them, they are never there."

Teixeira, now at Felgueiras, says he has been owed money for a year and has been given cheques that have not been cleared.

On the subject of money, the row between Benfica and Sporting Lisbon STILL drags on. Sporting have not come up with the £2.5million owed since their signing of Paulo Sousa, who has since gone to Juventus. They say they cannot afford to pay: Benfica in turn need the cash to pay off some outstanding debts.

ALBERTO DA SILVA

Greece

Rocha refuses to walk

JUAN RAMON ROCHA, the Argentinian coach of Panathinaikos, should have had very sore feet after his team upset Porto 1-0 in Portugal in the UEFA Champions League – he had promised to walk back to Athens if his team won.

Not only did Panathinaikos pull off their second straight victory, they did it with 10 men. A goal from Dimitris Markos in the 41st minute was enough for the Greek champions. Rocha flew back to Athens with the team, saying: "We have to rest and prepare for our league match with Panahaiki."

The win over Porto, which was dubbed "the greatest upset in Greek soccer history" by Athens newspaper *Ta Neu*, put Panathinaikos top of Group A of the Champions League with six points.

"We haven't qualified yet," Rocha said. "It was a great victory, but the programme that awaits us is tough.

"The victory was taken thanks to our coolheadedness. In modern soccer there are no longer big gaps between teams, and the standard of Greek soccer is quite high."

The success of Panathinaikos contrasts with the decline of another club, Larisa, who were the last rural team to win the Greek First Division, in 1988. Then the rot set in. The team have not made it into the top five since then and this season were still looking for their first points after seven matches. They had not won since March 5.

"The players we had in 1988 had been playing together for seven years," said Larisa's captain, George Mitsibonas.

"We worked hard then. Today we still have a good club and a lot of teams are not better than us, they are just lucky."

PAOK Salonika lost their Dutch coach, Arie Haan, who left to join Dutch club Feyenoord. PAOK are seeking £220,000 from Haan in compensation for breaking his contract.

In another development, the Greek Soccer Federation (EPO) are suing Ledra SA, the national team promoters in last year's World Cup finals, for around £260,000. The EPO are claiming the promoters paid them only £160,000 instead of the agreed £420,000.

The EPO also are taking manager Nikos Sklavounos to court on charges of fraud and embezzlement. The federation claim that Sklavounos stole ticket money from the Greek national team's matches, as well as writing cheques which later bounced. Sklavounos has blamed EPO president Costas Trivellas.

LOU ECONOMPOULOS

MALTA

MALTA's Euro qualifier against Holland resulted in a 4-0 crushing in front of a 10,000 crowd still awaiting their team's first victory in the group, with only Byelorussia to play.

Malta could have gone ahead as early as the second minute, when Gilbert Agius was elbowed for what looked like a clear penalty. No penalty given, Agius was carried off, and Malta bowed out to four second-half goals.

The only ray of light came from debutant Ivan Zammit's brilliant performance as libero.

On the domestic front, Valletta are still the team to beat. Six consecutive wins included crucial 2-1 victories over fellow contenders Sliema and Floriana. Joe Zarb completed a century of goals in a Valletta shirt with his winner against Sliema.

Sliema struggled to get going again, with an uninspired 2-1 win over Naxxar, and coach Andy Weavill announced his decision to quit, sparking a lot of controversy.

DOMENICO AQUILINA

ISRAEL

DESPITE victory over Group 1 whipping boys Azerbaijan, any hopes the national team had of qualifying for Euro '96 were dashed by France's 3-1 win in Bucharest and Slovakia's 4-1 defeat of Poland.

Striker Ronnen Harazi returned to the side after a three-month absence through injury and scored both goals.

On the local scene, the big clubs – Maccabi Haifa, Betar Jerusalem and Maccabi Tel Aviv – led after five rounds of matches.

They were joined by Hapoel Haifa, who promised so much last season but failed to deliver. They brought in a new coach, Avraham Grant, in the close season, and national team stars Tal Banin and Reuven Atar, big disappointments last season, have begun to hit the mark.

Three teams in the lower reaches of the table drafted in new coaches. Maccabi Herzliya hired Gilly Landau to take over from the fired Elisha Levy, while Maccabi Jaffa and Maccabi Petah Tikva brought in Nissim Bachar and Avraham Marchinsky respectively.

ORI LEWIS

LUXEMBOURG

THE first managerial casualty came, surprisingly, when F91 Dudelange parted company with Jean-Philippe Guerard, their coach for the past two years.

He was replaced by Claude Hausknech, who made an immediate impression – Dudelange thrashed champions Jeunesse Esch 5-0 in front of their biggest crowd of the season, 3,000.

The national team made it three games without defeat after a creditable 0-0 draw at home to Belarus.

TIM BRICE

Turkey

A glut as Leo goes

TURKISH football is enjoying – if that is the word – one of the most spectacular seasons for years.

In the past month there has been a managerial dismissal, a referee scandal, a hat-trick rewarded by a car, a favourite's return, a big-name transfer, and a day when nine matches in the top division produced a record 43 goals.

The manager: Leo Beenhakker, who left Istanbulspor after the club had lost seven of his eight games. Leaving at the bottom was a change for the much-travelled Beenhakker. Earlier this season he left a Mexican club, America, when they were third. Istanbulspor are hoping to get German Herbert Neumann, who recently left Anderlecht, as replacement.

The referee: Mustafa Culcu was suspended for six months by the Central Refereeing Committee after complaints by a club – Istanbulspor, owned by a TV channel. Culcu, thinking the Altay goalkeeper had been fouled, disallowed a goal and was promptly pilloried in the media, notably by the same TV channel, which took a page advert in various papers to complain.

The return: Hakan Sukur, back with Galatasaray after five months, five games and one goal for Torino. Gala have repaid the £1.6million they received, and Hakan – whose reluctance to leave his homeland was featured in a recent *WORLD SOCCER* – will now try to rebuild his career.

The reward: a Mercedes, provided by the Fenerbahce president's son after Dalian Atkinson had scored all three in a win over Galatasaray.

The transfer: Barry Venison, surprisingly chosen for England earlier this year, then surprisingly sold by Newcastle to Galatasaray, and now unsurprisingly sold to Southampton after an uninspired spell in Turkey.

The goals: they included an 8-0 win for Bursaspor over Ankaragucu, a 6-3 win for Genclerbirligi against Antalya, and Trabzon's 5-2 success against Altay.

And as a footnote: Turkey need to win in Sweden, in their final Euro '96 game, to qualify automatically. Any other result could mean mathematics decide whether they go through.

HASAN CEMALI

Norway

Bohinen deal under scrutiny

THE ENGLISH FA has asked FIFA to investigate Lars Bohinen's transfer from Nottingham Forest to Blackburn Rovers.

Bohinen admitted that he had used suspended agent Rune Hauge as "an advisor". However, he insisted Hauge had not been directly involved.

After two relatively successful years with Nottingham Forest in the English Premiership, the Norwegian international decided it was time to move on. Champions Blackburn's disastrous start to the season forced them into the transfer market – and when they found out that Bohinen had a clause in his contract allowing him to go for about £750,000, they moved in.

Bohinen first stepped on to the international scene when he scored Norway's decisive goal against England in a World Cup qualifier in 1993.

He started his career with Valerengen and Lillestrom in Norway and then moved on to Switzerland where he had a mediocre period with Young Boys Berne. After a loan period back home he was picked up by Frank Clark at Nottingham Forest.

As soon as the player established himself in England, Clark realised the need to do something about the clause in Bohinen's contract but player and club never managed to reach agreement.

The relatively low transfer fee gave Bohinen a very good personal contract with Blackburn and his friendship with team-mate Henning Berg should help him settle in quickly. Berg is certain that his fellow Norwegian will give the team an added dimension.

Bohinen rhapsody . . the Norwegian has revitalised Blackburn

Bohinen's dazzling runs from midfield get him into scoring positions and most of his goals for Forest were scored from outside the penalty area. Just the sort of player that Blackburn need.

Bohinen has had a dream start. He scored on his debut and has continued to add creative spark to the side as Rovers' fortunes at last appear to be taking a turn for the better.

● Rosenborg finished as champions 15 points ahead of Molde. In a dramatic last round of matches Hodd were relegated despite winning 5-1, thanks to Kongsvinger managing a draw.

SIGURD ODEGAARD

Denmark

Ready for England

KIM VILFORT aims to celebrate his 33rd birthday on the night Denmark face Armenia by leading his country to Euro '96.

The Brondby midfielder scored the goal which clinched Denmark's fairytale triumph in the 1992 European Championship final and has recently recovered from a serious back injury. He scored the goal in Denmark's crucial 1-1 draw at home to Spain which ensured second place in their qualifying group. Vilfort has also been in form at club level with Brondby, impressing against Liverpool in the UEFA Cup second round, first-leg clash, which drew a huge 37,000 crowd to the Parken.

AGF Aarhus, marshalled by Torben Piechnik, lead the league by four points from OB Odense, with another unfancied side, Lyngby, in third place. FC Copenhagen are fourth but there is more interest in their former manager Frank Mathiesen who has become an agent. He was involved in two controversial transfers, taking Swede Pontus Kamark to Leicester and Norwegian Lars Bohinen to Blackburn. Mathiesen admitted that he had received advice from banned agent Rune Hauge, and was asked for an explanation from FIFA.

Mathiesen is employed by the Danish First and Second Division clubs through an organisation called Danplayer and his bosses accepted his assurance that both transfers were conducted according to FIFA's new regulations.

JIM HOLDEN

Sweden

Jingbladh in at IFK

MATS JINGBLADH will be coaching IFK Gothenburg next season after current coach Roger Gustafsson announced he will return to youth coaching.

Jingbladh, 39, is a former Swedish international. He led Halmstad to promotion back to the Allsvenskan and victory in the Cup. Halmstad's new coach will be Trelleborgs' Tom Prahl.

Tommy Svensson promised a new-look Sweden for the friendly against Scotland. Although the Swedes won 2-0, with promising touches from newcomers defender Teddy Lukic and striker Jorgen Pettersson, media reaction was lukewarm. Svensson was criticised for giving his only debutant, Helsingborg forward Martin Pringle, a late run-on. Svensson has said he hopes Thomas Ravelli will continue to play for the national team until the 1998 World Cup.

The tactical trend in Sweden is slowly swinging from the trusted 4-4-2 to 3-5-2. Helsingborg, for weeks the League leaders, have used it to good effect and Svensson wants to test it with the national team as well.

Former Swedish international Roger Ljung has retired at the age of 29 to become a players agent.

PENNTI HIETANEN

Iceland

All change for bosses

THE post-season managerial roundabout has spun into action at a dizzy rate.

First off was departing international coach Asgeir Eliasson, who returned to newly relegated Fram, the club he led to three championships and as many cup wins in the 1980s. Eliasson's appointment was followed by the shock news of KR coach Gudjon Thordarsson's departure to League champions IA, the side he coached with such success from 1989-92. Thordarsson's four-year contract is the longest ever concluded in Icelandic soccer.

KR, after their courageous Cup-winners' Cup ties against Everton, moved swiftly to secure the services of ex-IA skipper Luka Kostic, whose achievements while cutting his managerial teeth at unfashionable Grindavik have won him much respect.

The self-effacing Serb began his managerial career in 1994, taking the Reykjanes club into the First Division for the first time ever and securing a place in the Cup Final, where defeat, ironically, came at the hands of KR. Last season, he kept the club in the top flight and reached the semi-finals of the Cup.

In a match as dire as the scoreline suggests, the national side marked their last home appearance in the qualifying stages of Euro '96 with a lacklustre 0-0 draw against Turkey which demonstrated only too clearly the magnitude of the task facing incoming manager Logi Olafsson for the 1998 World Cup.

RAB CHRISTIE

Finland

National side want Moller Nielsen

RICHARD MOLLER NIELSEN, who plans to resign as Denmark's national coach after next year's European Championship finals, has been offered the reins by Finland.

Moller Nielsen, who was about to decorate his kitchen when Denmark got the unexpected call to take part in the 1992 European Championships, where they were unexpected winners, confirmed he has been in contact with the Finnish FA. "We will continue our discussion but this is just one of my options," he said.

FC Haka are the new Finnish champions. Haka, coached by former national team supremo Jukka Vakkila, had not won a championship for 18 years. They were inspired by their Russian stars, midfielder Oleg Ivanov and striker Valery Popovich, the league's top scorer with 21 goals.

Haka's former national team goalkeeper Olli Huttunen ended his career on a high; it was his only title in a Finnish record 432 League games for Haka.

Last year's champions TPV Tampere and Kuusysi Lahti, four-times champions, were both relegated.

FC MyPa, who sold international forward Joonas Kolkka to Holland's Willem II, beat FC Jazz 1-0 to win the Finnish Cup.

PENNTI HIETANEN

Ukraine

Tragedy follows scandal

In mourning . . . the funeral of Shakhtyor Donetsk president Victor Bragin

AFTER the scandal in Kiev comes the tragedy at Donetsk. What a torrid time Ukraine football is going through at the moment.

The crowd of 98,000 who witnessed Kiev Dynamo's 1-0 victory over Panathinaikos of Greece in the first match of the Champions League could hardly have imagined that they had seen the start of a chain of events that has probably ruined football in the Ukraine for many years to come.

The police investigation of Kiev Dynamo's headquarters in connection with the bribery scandal, the exclusion of the best Ukrainian team from European competition and the loss of thousands of dollars were followed by the national side's 3-2 defeat in Slovenia, which ended all chances of qualifying for Euro '96, and the tragic road accident in which Victor Yurkovski, Kiev Dynamo's star goalkeeper of the 1980s and coach of Tavria Simpheropol, was killed.

On October 16, the whole country was shocked by yet another horrific incident, this time in Donetsk.

Shakhtyor Donetsk were playing Tavria at home. The game was only seven minutes old when a bomb exploded at the stadium, killing the president of Shakhtyor, Victor Bragin, his relative and four bodyguards. The players ran off the pitch in panic and the match was immediately abandoned.

According to police reports, the bomb attack was carefully planned and executed by the mafia. They placed the bomb several hours before the match, waited for the arrival of the powerful president, and then detonated the bomb using a remote control device.

Bragin, agaed 42, was a well-known Ukrainian businessman and owner of the industrial company Lux. He became president of Shakhtyor in 1994, transforming the club into a joint-stock company. He was known in the Ukraine as the reformist president of the so-called new wave.

Bragin established a precedent by buying out the contract of Igor Petrov, an international playing in Israel, and other leading players based abroad. He also proposed reducing the number of clubs in the Premier League and invited club veterans to return to Shakhtyor to teach youngsters.

Shakhtyor were rated as Dynamo's main title rivals at the start of the season, but are now in the relegation zone and face tough times ahead.

OLEG ZADERNOVSKY

Poland

Over and out in Bratislava

THE HEADLINES screamed 'Shame!' and 'Disgrace' after the national team's 4-1 defeat by Slovakia in Bratislava.

It was the same story after the first qualifying match against Israel last year. Poland started and finished their Euro '96 campaign in very poor style, or rather without any style.

After 63 minutes of the match in Bratislava, coach Henryk Apostel wanted to replace Roman Kosecki with Sylweter Czereszewski.

As he left the pitch the Polish captain took off his shirt in disgust at being substituted. Portuguese referee Monteiro Coroado booked him for dissent. Kosecki had already received a yellow card in the first half, so he was sent off. Kosecki was joined 12 minutes later by Piotr Swierczewski, also for dissent.

The weakened team then conceded three goals. Apostel offered to resign but the Polish FA decided he should continue as coach for the final qualifier, against Azerbaijan. A new coach will then be chosen.

The Polish FA not only suspended Kosecki and Swierczewski but asked them to travel to Poland – both play in France, Kosecki with Nantes, Swierczewski with Bastia – to explain their behaviour in Bratislava.

However, thanks to Legia Warsaw, Polish football is still making progress. The champions have a good chance of making the Champions League quarter-finals, after victories over Rosenborg and Blackburn.

On the domestic front interest centres on Legia and Widzew Lodz's battle for the title. Both teams had 34 points, 13 more than third-placed Lech Poznan. Widzew's Mariek Koniarek was top scorer with 14 goals.

● Former national team coach Andrzej Strejlau is back after a two-year break. He is in charge of Zaglebie Lubin.

DARIUSZ KUROWSKI

Russia

Victorious Vladikavkaz

Spartak Vladikavkaz are the new champions. A 2-1 win over CSKA Moscow put the title beyond the reach of nearest rivals Moscow Lokomotiv and gave the team from southern Russia their first title.

"We played well this season," said coach Valeri Gazzayev. "I think our people in Ossetia will be celebrating all night long."

So the team from the edge of the Chechnya war zone have broken Moscow Spartak's stranglehold on the Russian title. The side, who lost to Liverpool in the UEFA Cup and which contains Ossetians, Russians, Georgians as well as other nationalities, may be even stronger next season.

There are strong rumours that a number of Kiev Dynamo players, including star striker Victor Leonenko, are negotiating deals with Vladikavkaz, following the exit of the Ukrainian champions from the UEFA Champions League.

The new champions also plan to move to a new £3million state-of-the-art stadium by the end of November.

Spartak Moscow may have lost out to Vladikavkaz on the domestic front, but in Europe they have been in impressive form. In fact, Spartak coach Oleg Romantsev could win quite a number of votes if he ran for the Russian state presidency. Unlike its politics, Russia's football has been quite successful on the international scene recently.

Romantsev had been criticised for combining the jobs of Spartak and national team manager. However, both teams' performances in Europe have silenced the critics. Russia have qualified for the finals of Euro '96, while Spartak had a great start in the Champions League. Romantsev, however, is resigned to losing Victor Onopko, who announced plans to leave for a foreign club after Christmas.

Despite recruiting internationals Sergei Yuran and Stanislav Cherchesov and receiving cash injections from the Champions League, Romantsev is unable to prevent his top players from leaving. The insecurity of life in Russia is the reason for leaving most often quoted by players.

The Russian League will be expanded from 16 to 18 teams next season. Bottom-placed Dinamo-Gazovik of Tyumen will be replaced by the three top teams from the second division, Kaliningrad Baltika, Togliatti Lada and St Petersburg Zenit. Zenit are returning to the top flight under the guidance of Pavel Sadyrin, Russia's 1994 World Cup manager.

VICTOR GUSEV

SLOVENIA

THE National Championship, played on the same basis as the Scottish Premier, has proved terrible for the two strongest teams: SCT Olimpija of Ljubljana and FC Maribor Branik, who are both in the bottom four of the 10-team league.

FC Hit, from Gorica, beat Olimpija 3-0 in Ljubljana to leave Hit top of the standings with SCT way back in seventh. FC Mura, from Murska Sobota, are coach Milan Miklavic's nearest challengers, equal on 23 points after 12 games.

Olimpija are coached by Zdenko Verdenik, the Slovenia national team coach, who wanted to give up the national team until Olimpija trebled his salary, allowing him to retain both jobs.

ZDRAVKO REIC

BOSNIA/HERCEGOVINA

THE National Championship is being played in four groups and, despite the war, there is huge interest among fans.

At the end of the season, play-offs will be used to decide the title, currently being defended by FC Siroki Brijeg.

In the North Group, the matches are way behind schedule due to the war, but there are no problems of that sort in the other three groups. The whole league, however, suffers from indiscipline, with referees often criticised and fans often uncontrollable.

Interestingly, Mostar now have a league team once more. The city, devastated by the war, has replaced the former Velez Mostar with the newer FC Zrinjski, under the guidance of coach Franjo Vladic.

ZDRAVKO REIC

ALBANIA

PARTIZANI TIRANA sacked coach Hasan Lika after a poor start to the season. He has been replaced by former FK Tirana player Ramadan Shehu.

Ironically, 46-year-old Shehu's first game in charge was against champions FK. Partizani scored twice in the second half through Arben Milori to win 2-1 after Florian Riiza had put FK ahead.

In the big match in Durresi, Teuta beat FK Tirana 2-0. The big surprise was Flamurtari's 1-0 win in the Fieri stadium over Apolonia.

Partizani lead the table with 12 points, ahead of FK Tirana and Teuta on 11.

GEZIM NUSHI

ARMENIA

THE national team fell to bottom place in Group 2 of the Euro '96 qualifiers after the 2-0 defeat by Belgium. The 70,000 Razdan stadium attracted only 1,200 spectators that night.

National team boss Samvel Darbinian included just two foreign-based players in his squad – Ervand Soukiassian (Austria Tirol) and Razmik Grigorian (CSKA Sofia) – but ignored 24-year-old midfielder Hakop Ter-Pertrossian, the nephew of Armenia President Armen Ter-Pertrossian.

Darbinian, who also coaches Armenia's best-known club, Ararat of Yerevan, said he would be keeping an eye on strikers Garnik Avalian, from Russia's Krylia Sovetov, and last season's top scorer in the Ukraine, Arsen Avakov of Torpedo.

"Avakov was born in Tadjikistan but has Armenian ancestors. We are creating a new team from young players and Avakov can be part of our squad," said Darbinian.

Darbinian may yet lose his job if the Armenians finish bottom of Group 2. Ararat, meanwhile, are also struggling. They are currently sixth in the 12-team championship.

VLADMIMIR KALINKOVICH

Croatia

Croat pride

THE Euro '96 qualifier against Italy was a perfect opportunity for the whole of Croatia to show, in a perfect stadium in Split, just how much they care for soccer, the national team and the country.

On a colourful night, even Arrigo Sacchi, the Italian coach, was moved to remark: "This is wonderfully ambient . . . real football theatre."

This was, of course, also an opportunity to show the desire to take back Croatian territory still held by Serbia, namely Eastern Slavonia and Vukovar. Consequently, high above the VIP section of the stadium's main stand, a 35-metre-long Croatia flag flew.

Several Croatian internationals attended a celebratory breakfast the day after the match, held by Croatian President Franjo Tudjman, who is a huge football fan. The aborted friendly match with England was a main topic of conversation, with Tudjman saying: "It would be very important for Croatia to play at Wembley. But never beg anybody for anything. Let England invite us again!"

The importance of a trip to London was underlined by Croatian coach Miroslav Blazevic, who said: "A match with England is very important as a preparation for the Croatian team." The Croats hope the game will go ahead in April 1996.

One of Croatia's best players, Igor Stimac, has left Hajduk Split to sign a three-year deal with England's Derby County. Stimac, an English-style defender who is particularly strong in the air, has Richard Gere's looks, is married to a former Miss Yugoslavia and has two young children.

● COACHES have been having a torrid time in Croatia recently, with seven A Division clubs making changes. Even more amazingly, in the Second Division, FC Croatian Volunteers coach Rajko Magdia was fired after 33 consecutive victories and despite the club remaining top of the table!

ZDRAVKO REIC

Yugoslavia

Clubs in crisis

FOUR of the most promising young players in Yugoslavia have joined English clubs

The country has long had a reputation for producing talent, and despite the current problems posed by the civil strife, good youngsters keep coming through.

Branko Bulatovic, the FA general secretary, points out that the number of full and part-time professionals who have left the country in the past three years is now in the thousands rather than the hundreds.

The latest to go are Partizan's Savo Milosevic to Aston Villa and Sasa Curcic to Bolton, and Red Star's Darko Kovacevic and Dejan Stefanovic, both to Sheffield Wednesday. They may be joined abroad by Red Star Belgrade's Dejan Petkovic, a reported target for Spanish champions Real Madrid.

"Clubs here are in deep financial crisis, caused by the three-year absence from international competitions and the possible effects of the Bosman case. We are all very concerned," said Vladimir Cvetkovic, director general of Red Star.

MIROLJUB STOJKOVIC

Slovakia

Not such a wet blanket

THIS is proving a rather more interesting season for Slovak football than was expected, despite the usual blanket dismissals in the early stages of the European club competitions.

Slovan were not strong enough for Kaiserslautern, after a good but insufficient performance at home. In Europe, however, Slovakia can still finish third in their group, and can feel pleased with that in their first such competition.

Things also are moving in the League, which is not such a one-horse race as some expected. The holders, Slovan, are as low as fifth, with Spartak Trnava making the running.

Former Gyoer and Wisla coach Karol Pecze can do no wrong, and over 10,000 spectators are turning out regularly as the mixture of young and old, such as veteran Kapko, lead the table.

Elsewhere matters are less successful and stable, with another Waltz of the Trainers taking place. Anton Dragun has left Slovan to become Petrimex's third coach in three months, and Dusan Galis is back from "upstairs" to sit on the Slovan bench. With cash a problem and possibly more players to be sold, he will have his work cut out to restore fortunes.

Inter also sacked their manager, Jozef Adamec, who once scored a hat-trick against Brazil. He has been replaced by Jozef Valovic, in charge at DAC when the season began. In turn, former international forward Juraj Szikora has taken over from Valovic.

In the east, Lok Kosice have appointed Ondrej Istrok to replace Peter Fecko. And so it goes on . . .

BOB VAUGHAN

Czech Republic

Dusan bound for England

NEVER has the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg figured so much in the minds of Czech officials and fans.

Had the away game been won instead of lost in the last minute . . . but now a full house at a long-sold-out Letna will be cheering every kick as coach Dusan Uhrin's men aim to clinch a place at the European Championship next year.

All looked over for Uhrin after the early games, but now he can start learning English again ahead of his second visit to the UK. The first was in 1967, when he played for Third Division Dynamo Kobylisy in some friendlies against the likes of Sheen Old Grammarians.

If they do reach England, a more serious challenge awaits the Czech national side in what would be their first final series as a separate Republic.

The domestic saga is unfolding with the provincials from Liberec in the lead. Their latest win, 2-0 at home to Ceske Budejovice, put them a point ahead of Olomouc and two in front of Sparta, who have a game in hand. Slavia remain fourth despite a record Czech League victory, 9-1, over promoted Dherske Hradioste. Only 2,649 saw the carnage.

The old Prague firm should soon be back at the top, with Slavia and Zizkov as well as Sparta having a match in hand.

Brno continue to do wonders for the average gate statistics: 26,872 turned up for the match with Drnovice, who managed to hold Boby 2-2.

BOB VAUGHAN

Hungary

Fradi let down by fans

Champions' challenge . . . Ferencvaros take on Grasshopper in the Champions League

FERENCVAROS players have tried valiantly to restore some of Hungary's faded reputation in Europe, but their fans have let them down.

After their Champions League meetings with Ajax, the Dutch club made an official complaint to UEFA alleging "racist insults" had been made to some of their players by Ferencvaros fans.

Almost simultaneously Fradi were fined by UEFA as a result of similar complaints about the boorish behaviour of the travelling support at the match against Grasshopper in Zurich. This was just what the club did not need, after heavy defeats by Ajax and against Real in Madrid.

The national team also have had a tough time, but there is hope for the future in the Under-21 squad, currently top of the table in their European Championship qualifying group. So the Young Magyars should reach the quarter-final and go on to become one of the five Euro countries in the Olympic tournament.

On the domestic front, the main talking point has been the dismissal of MTK manager Bertelan Bicsei, who began the season with four wins on the trot, then drew two and lost two of the next four.

MTK, promoted back to where they belong, had invested heavily when persuading internationals Hamar and Illes to stay instead of leaving to play abroad. Bertelan paid the price for the mini slump, and general manager Istvan Kisteleki has taken over on the bench, aiming for a UEFA Cup place to restore some glory to one of Hungary's most famous clubs.

BOB VAUGHAN

Romania

Steaua still on course

STEAUA's league form remains unaffected by their ups and downs in the Champions League, where qualification for the quarter-final stage now looks unlikely.

With a quarter of the domestic season gone, they lead Dinamo by four points.

Gloria Bistrita keep up their challenge, but whether Dinamo or any of the provincial chasers can mount an attack may depend on how long the champions stay in EC1 and the national team, comprising mainly Steaua and foreign-based players, continue trying to confirm their place in England in 96.

Interest in the other Euro competitions ended with Petrolul unable to score at home to Rapid after losing 3-1 in Vienna.

It has been a poor season on the European front, Steaua excepted. But at least there is the prospect of a trip to England.

BOB VAUGHAN

Bulgaria

Juniors on a high

BULGARIA could top their Euro '96 group by winning in Berlin, but the Under-21 squad have perhaps an even greater incentive to win on the previous evening, in Frankfurt on the Oder.

Only something quite unexpected can prevent the senior team from booking tickets for England, and the juniors have what is virtually a cup final with Germany in the Stadion der Freundschaft overlooking the Polish border.

After seven matches Bulgaria are a point ahead of the German youngsters, who must win to qualify for the quarter-finals on what could be the road to the Olympics in Atlanta. Four semi-finalists and the best quarter-finalist can make it to the USA, and one of the last four will host the qualifying semi-finals and the final.

In the League, Levski went level top with Neftochimik, and a revived Slavia, a point behind, proved far too strong for ailing Chumen.

In the League Cup, Lok Plovdiv went out to a Second Division team, Belasitza, and Spartak Varna fell to Chirpan. There were few other surprises.

BOB VAUGHAN

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That old familiar feeling

THREE months into the new season, and the top of the FA Premiership table has a familiar look. Newcastle, Manchester United, Liverpool, Arsenal and Nottingham Forest occupy the top five positions. Between them these five clubs have won 42 championships.

Newcastle continue to lead the pack, though in their first real test of the season they were held to a 1-1 draw at Tottenham. But, after eight consecutive wins, a draw at Spurs is a decent result considering that Newcastle needed a David Ginola equaliser to achieve it.

Les Ferdinand, the division's top scorer, failed to score in that match after netting in each of his previous eight outings for United, equalling a club record.

Manchester United, fielding a very young side, continue to improve and are looking a threat once more. A relieved Andy Cole scored his first goal since August in a 2-0 victory over Middlesbrough, a win achieved despite Roy Keane's foolish dismissal for striking Jan-Aage Fjortoft. Boro, in sixth place, have surprised most observers with their fine start, and should be strengthened further by Juninho's loudly-trumpeted arrival from Sao Paulo.

Forest have now gone 24 League games without defeat, following their 1-1 draw at QPR. Lars Bohinen has left the City Ground, but manager Frank Clark has unearthed another gem in Steve Stone. The 24-year-old Geordie made his reputation as a hard-working midfield battler, but recently added a knack of scoring important goals to his armoury. Winning efforts against Tottenham and Auxerre in the same week led to an England debut, as a substitute against Norway. Rumour suggests that Manchester United are interested in Stone, but Forest will try to hang on to him at all cost.

That game in Oslo, a turgid 0-0 draw, drew howls of criticism from the media, but an away draw with Norway should be considered a good result. However, it tells us nothing new about England's progress – or lack of it – under Terry Venables, who still insists on playing Alan Shearer as the lone striker, ignoring the wealth of attacking talent in England at present.

Grin and bear it . . . Venables is under pressure

Credit to Venables for sticking to what he believes, but surely he must play to his strengths if England are to succeed next summer. The defence seems sound enough now, and the midfield will benefit from having David Platt back from injury, but the attack is severely lacking.

Shearer has not scored for England in over a year, and regular League goalscorers such as Ferdinand, Liverpool's Robbie Fowler and Arsenal's Ian Wright are not getting a look in. Increasingly, one gets the feeling that Venables will continue with his own one-striker idea to the bitter end, whether it works or not, and hang the consequences.

The sleaze factor will not go away, either. The latest attack on Venables comes from Labour MP Kate Hoey, who has made claims that he broke company law while still at Tottenham and is under investigation by the Department of Trade and Industry. Venables, naturally, denies the allegations, claiming he is the victim of a concerted campaign to discredit him. That may be true, but even if all the allegations are proven untrue, some of the mud inevitably will stick.

Former Arsenal manager George Graham is back in the headlines. He has just released a book, *The Glory and the Grief*, in which he admits for the first time that he did accept a £140,000 cash gift from Norwegian agent Rune Hauge.

Graham confessed that "greed got the better of him" when he accepted the money – in £50 notes – as a "Christmas present" from Hauge. Some present!

He now claims that the gift, which was later topped up with another £285,000, was not a slice of the transfer fees for Pal Lydersen and John Jensen, but rather for advice given to Hauge concerning the transfers of other European players to other English clubs. It appears that Graham, who plays the "I'm only human" card repeatedly in his defence, is appealing for sympathy.

● Scunthorpe equalled their record victory by winning 8-1 at Torquay, although the home goalkeeper was the star man according to one national newspaper. Manager Don O'Riordan is now looking for another job.

JOHN KELLY

Leeds and Liverpool lose their way

SOCCER in England has rarely attracted so much public interest. Gates remain high, shops are full of trendy football-related clothing, and the media is in danger of drowning its target, such is the flood of new magazines, radio and TV programmes and expanded newspaper coverage.

Hardly will this season have ended than the European Championship finals, the biggest sporting event staged in the country since the 1966 World Cup, will be under way.

How ironic, then, that some of the positive benefits of all this lucrative goodwill have been wasted by a depressing situation among the clubs at the very top of the Premiership pile.

Manchester United were out of Europe long before the clocks were turned back, and Blackburn's position as champions seemed barely credible after a dreadful start to the Champions League.

Then Leeds crashed 5-3 at home to PSV in the UEFA Cup, and confounded gung-ho expectations of an improbable recovery by conceding two banal goals in a 3-0 defeat in Eindhoven.

On the same night there was an even greater shock, when Liverpool went out of the same competition. For the first time in their European history, which goes back 30 years, they failed to score in three successive games, and paid the inevitable penalty when Brondby snatched a late goal.

In their Euro displays Liverpool might just as well have been playing under an assumed name. They did well to win away to Spartak Vladikavkaz in the first round, but put on a craven display in the second leg, leaving only one man up front, seeming content merely to defend their 2-1 lead – and this at Anfield, where so many teams have gone trembling to defeat.

In Copenhagen, Liverpool again defended well to earn another goalless draw, but their display in the second leg merits no word of praise higher than inept. The fact that they had recorded two wins and 10 goals in the previous week made the defeat all the more surprising.

Few managers have as much experience of European soccer as Roy Evans, who sat alongside the No. 1 on dozens of benches during his long apprenticeship. Sadly, he has so far been unable to get his players to act upon his knowledge. Record signing Stan Collymore has been in and out of the side, struggling with a mysterious 'viral infection'.

Collymore's former club, Nottingham Forest, became England's sole representative in the last 16 of the UEFA Cup, despite being second best in both games with Auxerre.

The French club had the better of both matches in terms of possession and shots, but Forest followed their 1-0 away win with a gritty demonstration of some old-established English virtues in the second leg, including team spirit, hard work and sheer will to win. Or to draw, which in this case proved to be enough.

DAVID PROLE

Scotland

Rangers under Turin cloud

ALTHOUGH the national side are on the brink of qualifying for Euro '96, the unhealthy state of Scottish club football was highlighted by Rangers' humiliation at the hands of Juventus in the Champions League.

It was the manner of the 4-1 defeat in Turin which caused the most concern. It became embarrassingly obvious that the Italians, having found themselves three goals up in 23 minutes, were content to take their foot off the pedal and conserve their energies for Serie A business the following Sunday.

Rangers were without their two best players, Brian Laudrup and Paul Gascoigne, but were found to be severely lacking sufficient cover for the big occasion.

It says something about the state of Scottish football that Walter Smith's men continue to dominate. Indeed, three days after being destroyed by Juventus, Rangers, this time with Gazza, hammered Hearts 4-1.

Celtic, having lost narrowly to Paris Saint-Germain in midweek, could only draw with Kilmarnock. Celtic's chances of winning the League diminish as the weeks pass, and their only chance of a major honour would again appear to be the Scottish Cup.

Last season, Hibernian presented the early challenge to Rangers. The Edinburgh club have once again started in positive fashion, with their strike force of Keith Wright and Darren Jackson looking sharp.

Elsewhere, Aberdeen appear to have shrugged off the depression that engulfed the club during last season's brush with relegation. Roy Aitken now looks to have assembled the nucleus of a squad capable of revitalising the club's fortunes.

ALAN FAIRLEY

Northern Ireland

Shiels out and in again

EVENTS in Northern Ireland have been dominated by the curious case of a sacked manager and two instances of clubs being banned from playing in cup ties.

Kenny Shiels, manager of First Division club Coleraine, was dismissed after only nine months in charge, then reinstated a few days later after players had objected to the board's decision.

Not only the players were upset – chairman Hugh Wade and two other directors resigned. But not all the remaining board members want to keep Shiels, so there may be further developments before long.

Glenavon were banned from taking part in the Ulster Cup because they had fielded a player who was under suspension. Midfielder Marc Kenny, 21, had been banned for nine games while with Bangor but played again before the nine games had been completed. He earned himself another six games off as a result.

Then Portadown were found guilty of playing 17-year-old full-back Gareth Fulton before his registration had been completed and they too were thrown out of the competition.

Portadown were the only club with a 100 per cent record after the first three games in the Premier Division, as the new two-tier system came into operation.

Three wins produced 12 goals for Portadown, four of them from Gary Haylock and a hat-trick from Neil Candlish, in his first game since March.

ROY KITSON

Wales

Twelve chasing title

IN THE most open season so far in the short life of the League of Wales, only seven points separate the top 12 clubs.

Leaders Newport AFC have the League's tightest defence, having conceded just six goals in 10 League outings. Their youth policy is paying dividends, with a number of English clubs watching their young stars.

Conwy United have built a strong squad under new manager John Hulse. Latest signing Paul Mullen, from Rhyl, scored on his debut at Caernarfon Town.

Barry Town, having sacked Eddie May, are starting to live up to their early season expectations. Under new boss David Giles, they ended Conwy's unbeaten run with a 2-0 win. Elsewhere, Ebbw Vale's physical approach is producing results and champions Bangor City have strengthened their squad, the most recent signing being Richard McNeil from Fflint Town United.

The national side's performance against Germany boosted confidence throughout Welsh football. However, Bobby Gould's side face a tough test in Albania in their final European qualifier. A good result may improve their seeding for the forthcoming World Cup qualifiers

The Under-18 side have qualified for next year's European Championship finals in France.

As *WORLD SOCCER* was going to press, they faced the Republic of Ireland with the winner set to reach the finals.

MEL AP IOR THOMAS

next month

The full results of the 1995 WORLD SOCCER Awards. You can still vote by filling in this form. January issue on sale December 8

To register your vote, fill in this coupon and send it (or a photocopy) to 1995 ***WORLD SOCCER*** Awards, ***WORLD SOCCER*** magazine, King's Reach Tower, Stamford St, London SE1 9LS. Please include your name and address and ensure your vote reaches us by the closing date, December 1 1995.

PLAYER .....

TEAM .....

MANAGER .....

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

.....

DEC

Champions Challenge

Team Name	Entrant Name	Team No
[10] UTD	Amirdeep Sian	00960
11 BEAVERS TWIN CITIES F.C.	Dan Braverman	04047
11 NON GER'S	K.F. Yip	00928
11 PEICE JIGSAW FC	Michael Minihan	00800
11 SWINGING THRILLERS	Martin Rochford	04390
14 ARE BETTER THAN 12	Frank Lucente	02582
1967 LISBON LIONS MEET THEIR MATCH	Antony Ritchie	02820
1995 GREENWICH	Bip Gautam	03523
114 DEMOLITION SQUAD	Reginald Akapusse	04748
2 MEN WITH NO HAIR F.C.	David Salisbury	05038
44 MILLION STRIKE FORCE	Shane Gibbons	04432
4MF+2ST OR 3MF+3ST? GREAT ORGANIZAT	Matthew Evans	02979
"5-0, WHO'S NEXT?"	Simon Neve	02447
748 HIGH ROAD	Rafer Mohammed	04497
786 PREDATOR'S F.C.	Bashir Marwa	00843
7OCHAMP EAGLES XI	E. Mason	04334
99ERS	Kofi Narkw	02859
A 2 Z EUROPEAN STARS	John Farrugia	00869
A FRACTURED FOOTY FABLE?	Andrew Downing	04060
A LOVELY BUNCH OF FOREIGN COCONUTS	Daniel Maskell	04853
A MADE UP TEAM FEATURING PEOPLE	Daniel Englefield	03306
A PASSING INTEREST	Robert Siggins	02799
A-WEAR THE LADS	Paul Houlihan	03037
A.C HAJDUK SELECTS	George Belan	02953
A.C. A LITTLE FELLOW OF A MAN	Martin McLaughlin	04679
A.C. ALL STARS	Ryan Mircic	04024
A.C. ANDREW	Andrew Fraser	00746
A.C. BOITE	Tim Munn	03920
A.C. BURSCOUGH	Stuart Roberts	00449
A.C. DAKOO	D. Dakhil	04322
A.C. DELI	Tony Sourle	03933
A.C. EURO STARS	Gordon Lockerbie	04549
A.C. EUROPA	A. Sheppard	03897
A.C. F.E.L.I.A.	Miss E. Di Fiore	00779
A.C. FOREST UNITED	Adam Keal	04374
A.C. LIVERPOOL	Gregory Sharpe	03236
A.C. LOTTO	Seb Cavuse	02624
A.C. LUXERINO	Chris Marks	00065
A.C. MANCHENTUS	Anthony Walker	00397
A.C. MENANTI	Mohd Yazid Anuar	04336
A.C. MICKEY	Michael Unwin	00224
A.C. MILA EUROPEAN & WORLD CHAMPION	Liam Mc Fadden	00884
A.C. MILAN	Colm Ward	02672
A.C. MILAN	Carlos Mc Kenna	03962
A.C. MILAN 8 TEAM	Lee Owen	02938
A.C. MILAN DREAM TEAM	D. Romann	04266
A.C. MILDAN	Daniel Morgan Rothero	02632
A.C. MILLIGAN	Michael Milligan	04333
A.C. OSHAWA	Kim Bradbury	00067
A.C. PI. SILVERS MILAN CITY	Philip Silver	00803
A.C. PEDALI POWERO	Philip Dowling	00237
A.C. REAL AMSTERDAM	Graeme Coyle	02500
A.C. REAL FURNISS	Keith Wilton	00785
A.C. SAFEER	Samia Safeer	04377
A.C. STRABANE	Andy Gibson	00024
A.C. TOON ARMY ON TOUR	Marc Walmsley	05032
A.C. VALENTOIA	Paul Valenie	02277
A.C. VAN BASTEN XI	Delash	04535
A.C. WEBB	Tom Webb	03398
A.F.C. BOSCOMBE	John Carter	03492
A.F.C. BRINKBURN	Robert Walker	03949
A.F.C. CHAMPIONS LEAGUE	Niall Martin	00256
A.J. RUMPELSKILSKINS	R. Forero	03330
A.K.A. F.C.	P. Fennell	02530
A.M.F. JUVENTUS F.C.	A.M. Fillies	02728
A.P. EICHORN - CROWELL	Rob Pyle	02505
A.T.F.C. FOREVER	Martin Sheridan	04430
AARDVARK ZEBEDEE	Atholl Knight	04385
AARON'S CHAMPIONS	Aaron Miles	02096
ABERDEEN RAIDERS	Alex Fairman	00626
ABRONHILL ALL STARS	M. Hislop	03983
ABSW	Anthony Rankin	03546
ABUL'S EUROPEAN FINEST	Abul Basher	03237
AC ALL STARS	Michael	04238
AC BATTY FREE	K. Luckham	04678
AC BURNIE	Derek Burnie	04658
AC BURNSY'S CHAMPIONS	Colin Burns	04969
AC CHELSEA	David Neale	04989
AC DEL PIERO	Morgan Buttner	03970
AC EDWARE	David Thomas	03357
AC EUROPA	Mr. M. Ahmed	04022
AC INTERFENHAM	Paul Robson	00396
AC JUVE	Mah Turnbull	04860
AC LONDON	London Kim	02442
AC MACCA	Tom Mc Kenna	00276
AC MADRID '95	Roger Bennett	00466
AC MIDORI	Midori Hekiert	03095
AC MILAN	Nick Gibbens	00442
AC MILANO XI	David Ofoeeby	04086
AC OF THE WORLD	Deen Dlus	04964
AC ROMA 01	Nasser Hussain	04356
AC SHAUNA	Anthony Hancox	02466
AC STARSFIELD	Mr. S.R. Broad	00393
AC TRIPLES	Mudassar Ayub	02692
AC UEFA MD	Marco Di Marlo	02265
AC UNREAL MADRID OF AMSTERDAM B	Paul Steele	03405
AC WESTCLIFF	Paul Holley	00702
ACE JOKERS	Han Jee Shyan	03637
ACKERS RANGERS F.C.	Bahauddin Miah	00323
ADAMS CHAMPIONS	Adam Jones	02785
ADEL UNITED	Adel Ferdowsipour	03966
ADIDDAS F.C.	Sam Chapman	00805
ADRIAN'S ARMY	Tommy Cradock	03244
ADVANCEDHAIR - YEAH YEAH	Nick Bouskoutas	02344
AEK FAMAGUSTA RED FACES	Andrew Sanders	04889
AF FLYERS	Alan Frizzell	02960
AFC NEW CROSS 1995	Yosuke Kadola	04490
AFK ROSEHEARTY	Christopher Smith	04477
AGBOJO SCORPIONS	Mr. Ayo Yusuff	04958
AHCUMFAE PAISLEY	David Malden	00507
AIN'S GOT TIME	Glynn Johnston	04676
AJAX	Azar Mahmood	04903
AJAX AMSTERDAM	Dinesh Lakhani	02883
AJAX AMSTERDAM	Lamin Bah	03560
AJAX CREAM CLEANER	Danny Swan	04323
AJAX CREAM CLEANERS	Marco Di Marlo	03372
AJAX FOREVER!!	M. Cooling	03426
AJAX II	Colin Leggat	03657
AJAX KIDS	Joe Piperno	02948
AJAX OF AIRDRIE	Robbie Clark	02997
AJAX STARLINK	John Klissas	04284
AJAX'S ACTING ANTICS	Edward Cave	00272
AJAXISART	Paul Dunnior	00326
AJAXS ACES II	R. Desmond	04765
AJAZ AMSTERDAM	David Swan	00563
AKALLA DREAM TEAM	Oliver Forgach	02536
AKPLG'S OLYMPIQUE MARSEILLE	Levy - Garboua	00453
AKRAGAS F.C.	G. Pitrolino	02623
AL AND MC UNITED	John Mc Keever	02926
AL'S WINNERS	Mr. Alan Barber	03402
ALAN'S ACES	Alan Padkin	04042
ALANS MISSION IMPOSSIBLE	Alan Burrows	03565
ALBA GREEN AFC	A. Mc Leary	03604
ALESSANDRO ALTOBELI	Gary Pedrotti	04968
ALEX ATHLETIC	Alex Copley	03403
ALEX ATHLETIC 2	Alex Copley	03462
ALEX OLDMAN'S BARMY ARMY	Alex Oldman	00694
ALFA'S AVENGERS	F.A. Alisier	00832
ALL STAR ELEVEN	Colin Kelleher	02234
ALL STAR UNITED	Lorenzo Valiera	00859
ALL STARS	Suleman	03550
ALL STARS TO	Tom Robinson	04674
ALL TIME XI	Mr. S.W. Pike	03024
"ALL WINNERS ""NORWEGIAN VERSION"""	Harald Mytlevoss	02280
ALLES LES VERTS	John Turner	03754
ALLEZ LES VERTS	Andy Street	04353
ALMAROS	Johann Einarsson	04708
ALMERIA	Francisco Almansa	02496
ALMOST TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE RESERVES	D. Partridge	02483
ALPHA ROVERS	Nazian Nasir	03046
ALPHA TROOP '95'	Scott Whiting	00036
ALPIAN ROVERS OF N.Y.	Armand Alpian	04207
ALSO RANS	Alan Hunt	04727
ALTO EUROPA	Pierre Oliviere	00403

Team Name	Entrant Name	Team No
AMAZING	A.M. Idenlagkbeid	04090
AMSTERDAM'S BRIGHTEST F.C.	J. Kefel	00978
ANCIENT DONS OF GOTHENBURG F.C.	A. Carwickshank	02942
AND GOUGH LIFT UP THE CHAMPIONS CUP	J. Ritchie	02499
ANDERSPURS	Anders Lai	03607
ANDREWS FC	David Andrews	03200
ANDY'S ARMY	Andrew Ball	00699
ANDY'S BARMY ARMY	Mr. A. Firth	04590
ANDY'S EURO MASTERS	Andy Johnstone	00590
ANDYS ARISTOCRATS	Mr. A. Harris	02942
ANFELD REJECT'S XI	Jonathan Randle	04626
ANFIELD ACES DREAM TEAM	John Brislow	03759
ANFIELD RAPPERS	Mr. Nick Wylde	00327
ANGLO-EUROPEAN SAMBA SUPER STARS	Karl Nicholson	02347
ANGMERING ALLIES	Mr. H. Wastnage	02922
ANGUS OG'S IMMORTAL'S	W. Barrie	00567
ANOTHER FANTASY TEAM F.C.	Gero Benolone	00443
ARARAT	M. Manoukian	04299
ARARAT ROVERS	Zola Sookias (Mr.)	03738
ARBROATH V BON ACCORD - THE RETURN	R. Partridge	04030
ARCADIA F.C.	Ian Blackaby	00034
ARGENTINE EUROPEAN FOOTBALL CLUB	Esteban Laedone	03028
ARGY'S X-ZECUTIVE JUNIORS	Mr. A. Sabharwal	03593
ARGYLE STAR	M. Sam	02210
ARIS-SUPER 3-HARILAOU-SALONICA THEO	T. Souravlas	04307
ARITHMOGRAD WANDERER'S	Ashfaw Ahmed	05024
ARM-AMBRO	Martin Gammack	02375
ARMCHAIR UNITED	John Murphy	02963
ARNIE'S EURO RANGERS	Gary Arnold	03763
ARSENAL IN EUROPE '95	G. Cummins	04689
ARSENAL OF MA'S WICKBOM	Mats Wickbom	02667
ARSENAL RESERVES	Mr. Mark Rowe	02922
ARSENAL UEFA CHAMPIONS OF EUROPE	Mrs. G. Fahmy	03536
ARSENAL XI	A. Dine	00870
ARSENALS EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS	Mr. S. Malhur	00963
ARSENIC F.C.	Toni Joutjarvi	03993
ARTHRITIC MADRID	James Leith	05005
ARTIC RAIDERS	Jahup Fjallebak	02980
AS COSMOPOLITAN	Mark Hodges	05004
AS. AC. ATLETICO UNDER 30'S	Robert Owens	03053
ASHHILL S.C.	Kevin Niven	00244
ASHMAN COURT WANDERERS	Mark Baker	04723
ASHTON UNITED	David Johnston	00699
ASPIRED	A. Hewitt	05039
ASSOCIAZIONE CALCIO INTERNAZIONAL	Ahmed Al Mousiwi	03898
ASSYRIAN EAGLES OF CHICAGO	E. Binyamin	02837
ASTON VILLA - I WISH!	Scott Gibb	03246
ASTRAL WEEKS	Mr. S. Bahlan	02350
AT LAST A DANISH TEAM	Allan Guldberg	00344
ATHERTONS DIRTY FINGERS	Naveed Rava	05046
ATHLETIC MUNDAKA	Athletic Mundaka	00926
ATHLETIC PAULS-BOYO'S	Paul Havell	04055
ATHLETICO ALICANTE	Mr. F. Moolla	02999
ATHLETICO CLOGGERS	P. Coulling	02934
ATHLETICO DUMFRIES	Peter Davers	00409
ATHLETICO GARFORTH	Simon Painter	00750
ATHLETICO GUMBY	Jason Bullmore	04367
ATHLETICO HILLHEAD	David Lindsay	00489
ATHLETICO MARINA	A.J. Mirard	00966
ATHLETICO MARIO WALSH	N.R. Stones	03756
ATHLETICO WHATATARTIO	Stu Rogers	03093
ATHURIANS	Gordon Arthur	00076
ATIEFS ALL STARS	Atief Arshad	00255
ATKINS FOR ENGLAND	Duncan Astley	03276
ATLANTIS ORION	Alexander Popov	04942
ATLETICO ALLSTARS	John Stubbs	03607
ATLETICO BURNSIDE	Mark Manson	02764
ATLETICO EARLY DOORS	Mark Jones	04483
ATLETICO EUROPA HIMESH F.C.	Himesh Gadhvi	03549
ATLETICO HOENDIEP	Niels Redeker	02235
ATLETICO MAGNIFICO!	Martin Buxton	00958
ATLETICO OF WASHINGTON DC	M. Mc Cleary	03030
ATLETICO PENAROL	Martin Thunderclife	00480
ATLETICO PULBOROUGHO	Michael J. Sheridan	04900
ATLETICO SAFEER	Baddar Safeer	02648
ATLETICO SPARTAK	Ralph Hamlin	00845
ATLETICO VICTORIO	Ron Lunt	00592
AUB "" JUVENTUS	Anwar Jaafar	03065
AUBREY'S CHAMPION'S CHALLENGERS	Aubrey Dunne	04938
AUBREY'S EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS	Aubrey Dunne	04457
AUBREY'S EUROPEAN XI	Aubrey Dunn	04937
AUBREY'S SERIE 'A' ACES	Aubrey Dunne	04936
AUCKLAND DRAGONS	Thomas Fong	02493
AUFSCHNITT SPAM-NOZZEL F.C.	Nick Chow	05027
AUSSIE CONECTION	George Grispos	02279
AVENGERS F.C.	O. Hibbale	00069
AVENUE LIVE	Z. Zwierzewicz	03846
"AVFC, FLORIDA STATE UNIV. BRANCH"	Shawn O'Hare	02552
AZKARGORTA'S MOUSTACHE FAN CLUB	Peter Thomas	02342
AZZURRI F.C.	Ben Padley	00052
AZZURRI U.S.A.	Ray Villanojr	04957
B.A. ALLSTARS	Bilal Akram	00600
B.I.F. WINS CHAMPIONS LEAGUE 1997	Allan Jensen	02906
B.R.F.C. BILBAO	J.M. Wright	04409
BARBSVILLE ARIZONA XI	James Kidd	00304
BARGA HOBSON J.F.C.	A.R. Milarwale	04825
BARLA'S HEROS	Mieszko Iwaskow	03358
BARNES SCORES AGAINST BRAZIL	David Coutts	02755
BARNSLEY F.C. - NEXT YEAR!	Mr. R. Bagnall	03300
BARNSLEY'S EURO FANATICS	Chrisi Purdon	04822
BARRIE ROVERS	Raymond Bahana	00667
BARRIE'S EURO CHAMPS	A.P. Mehta	00022
BARRON KNIGHTS	N. Jansen	03483
BARROW ROVERS	Matthew Baker	02532
BARTGERS F.C.	M. Smith	00839
BAS' BABES	Chris Norris	04834
BASHLEY FC EURO POTENT DREAM TEAM	Kris Januszkiewicz	04805
BAYERN AYRSHIRE	E.W. De Vries	02460
BAYERN BEECHES	Steven George	02845
BAYERN CHELSEA	Jaime San Martin	04786
BAYONA WARRIORS	John Barber	05007
BEACH BOYS	Clint Lowe	02273
BEACH END AT HAMPDEN AGAIN	Steven Ockenden	00578
BEATTIE'S BRAVEHEARTS	A. Pardal	02224
BEBETO'S BOYS FROM BRAZIL	Simon Bradbury	03256
BECKY	Mr. J. Barefield	00892
BEDLAM BOYS	Mostafa Lodin	04586
BEERYS BATTLERS	Peter Sullivan	04026
BEIJING VICTORY	John Platt	00430
BEING THERE	Andrew Farnshaw	04848
BETH JUNIORS I WISH	D. Barnes	04790
BELFAST UNITED DEBORN	Shayne Ramskill	02939
BELFORD EUROPEAN ALLSTARS XI	B. Mc Menemy	04677
BELLSHILL RANGERS	A.G. Barron	02662
BELMONT WANDERERS	Jacqui Byrne	04375
BELT END BOBS SHOWBIZ XI	Martin Rogers	03387
BENARRIVO	Richard Fox	02936
BENGAL F.C.	Ian Davies	03797
BENGAL TIGERS	Nand B. Gray	02839
BENITO DAVIDSON'S REAL XI	R. De Sousa	03602
BENNY XI - FEAT SCHOLES - Y	David Neale	04569
BERGKAMP UNITED	Paul Mc Cullough	00898
BERKAMP TO WRIGHT, GOAL FC"	Wayne Stewart	00260
BERLIN-DREAMS	Amjid Farooq	02833
BESIKTAS ISTANBUL TURKIYE	Gary Fitzsimmons	02468
BETHEFIRST	Joseph Grogan	03844
BETTER THAN MAN UTD.	Ben Hayes	04946
BEUT S.O.B.S. UNITED	Aizal Ali	02255
BIANCONERI RAMBOS OF COVENTRY	M.R. Emon	00943
BIG AJAX	Ben Davidson	02239
BIG BANG FC	M. Bensler	04669
BIG FAT AL'S BARMY ARMY	Alex Gibbons	02925
BIG KAZUR'S GREEN UNDERWEAR ARMY	Duncan Bailey	05043
BIG ROB'S BLACK AND RED ARMY	J. Strehl	04655
BILBAO RANGERS II	C. Goksin	05055
BISHWACK RANGERS	Gotlardi Paola	02269
BLACK COUNTRY MAESTROS	J. Luscombe	00529
BLACK DIAMONDS	Sue Finlay	03804
BLACK EAGLE	W.M. Lee	00868
BLACK IRISH GUARDS	Mr. D. Birmingham	00848
BLACK SAINTS	Ingar Schjoelberg	02968
BLACKBURN EUROPEAN CUP HAI HAI	A.D. Stringer	03925
BLACKBURN RODENTS II	K. Valentine	00033
BLACKLANDS UNITED	Robin Fisher	00092
BLACKPOOL WORLD ALL STARS	Mr. L. Moles	00970
BLACKSTONE MAVERICKS FC	Abdul Basit	03539
BLEACH BOYS	Tony Matthews	03068
BLENHEIM ATHLETIC	L. Manson	00434
BLISTERING BORUSSIA BOTHWELL	Jacky B.B.	04269
BLIZZARD - COSTA - EXPRESS - BCE	Shane Kelly	00789
BLOODY BOARS SV	Paul Onanga	00856
BLOXWICH BULLETS	Paul Hibbard	02933
BLUE FLAG FLYING HIGH	Leigh Milne	00927
BLUE MOON RISING	William Walker	00387
BLUE SHIRTS	Stephen Connell	00836
BLUE TAB BARGAINS	Richard Way	02020
BOB GRIFFIN TRIERS	Colin Ross	00854
BOB MARLEY TINTIN AND LEBANON FC	Chris Hood	03782
BOB'S DRYMAMA'S	Gordon Crawford	03808
BOBINSBOROUGH UNITED	Costa Grillas	03525
BOES XI EUROPEAN DUBERIES	Jarmo Kasonon	03538
BOCA HASTINGS	Mr. Tim Jones	02786
BOCCA MILAN	J. Milisis	04698
BOHEMIAN'S	David Crossley	03339
BOHEMIANS OF ANGUS	Duncan Fraser	02727
BOIS NOIS FC	Gareth Jones	02893
BOKA DOLPHINS	Bob Griffin	00487
BONGO'S BOYO	Andrew Mc Kinlay	04543
BOOGERS HUGHES DISCO F.C.	Mr. Bob Shaw	00469
BOOTH'S BLASTERS	Simon Wood	03305
BORGANOVO	David Fletcher	04472
BORINGBURN ROVERS	R.I. Worth	00238
BORN IN THE USA	J. Luscombe	00530
BORN TO WIN XI	E. Dicker	00774
BORO FOR THE CHAMPIONS LEAGUE	D. Beattie	00364
BORRUSIA MUNCHENSADBAGS	Nicholas De Haro	03066
BORUSSIA BEANO!	Vlado	02368
BORUSSIA BRISTOLMUDBATH	Alex Ryan	00973
BORUSSIA CHELSEA	H. Mc Guinness	02405
BORUSSIA HUMBUG	Mr. M. Booth	02637
BORUSSIA MATTHEWGLADBACH	Dave Parkin	04606
BORUSSIA READING	Daniel Macaskill	02858
BORUSSIA SELFDOWN	W. Intveldt	02732
BORUSSIAN RHAPSODY	Mark Deeds	03658
BOSINOSKI F.C.	Michael Tyerman	00584
BOTLEY BOOTERS RESERVES	Derek Reid	00062
BOTTOM OF THE TABLE WANDERERS F.C.	Andrew Bennett	04235
BOYS FROM BOSSLEY PARK	Tony Alberts	02487
BRAINVILLE XI	David Neale	04993
BRAMPTON SOCCER STARS	Keith Rothero	02633
BRAVEHEART'S	Matt Hunt	00004
BRAVEHEARTS F.C.	P. Miller	03533
BRAVEHEARTS XI	Walter Terry	03703
BRAZIL - IANT BORO XI	D. Price	02809
BRAZILIANS IN DISGUISE F.C.	Mr. L. Mcgann	04508
BRECDON OT HILL F.C.	John Gilbertson	03484
BRECON SOCIALITES	Carrick Walsh	04640
BREIDABLIJ F.C.	P. Handriksen	03606
BRETT'S EURO EUROPE OR BUST XI	Paul Montero	00457
BRIAN IRVINE'S DISCO TROUSERS	Seabastian Copley	03453
BRIAN UNITED	Dino Olivsira	02360
BRIAN'S BIG HEAD BENDERS	John Mc Phail	03365
BRIAN'S DREAM TEAM	Paul Mc Geogh	00748
BRIANNAS BHOYS	Tom Harkey	04230
BRIBES 'R US F.C.	Mark Fearnley	04408
BRICKTOWN F.C.	Bernardo Armani	00986
BRIGHTON IN EUROPE	Robert Douglas	04468
BRISTOL ROVERS IN EUROPE	Darran Socialites	04208
BRITS AINT GOODENUFF	Hakon Suenisson	04300
BRILEY'S BLUE AND WHITE ARMY	Brett Hughes	02597
BRONX WARRIORS	Russell Fraser	04589
BROOK VILLA	Brian Mc Kay	00950
BROOKLYN UNITED	Jon Way	04472
BROOMHILL BANDITS	Brian Pattenden	00937
BROOMHILL BUTCHERS	Alistair Ewen	02758
BRORA RANGERS F.C.	M. Van Zwanenburg	03498
BROTHAS DOOBIE	Andreas Fagerberg	04928
BROWN COW WANDERS	S. Greening	04698
BRUYNI BLIZZARDS	J. Triorburn	04223
BRYAN MUNICH JORDS F.C.	Robert Loarling	04738
BRYANS EURO HITS	Robert German	03327
BRYSON F.C.	Mark Ling	02382
BUBBA'S BABES FC	D. Pataraon	04233
BUCCANEER FOOTBALL CLUB INTERNATION	Eoghan Linehan	02477
BURGIO F.C.	Ammy Marwa	00952
BURNFOOT MILLAN	Adrian Hill	02560
BURNHAM BIANCONNERI	John Ross	00720
BURSTWICK XI	Mr. Stuart Peirie	03502
BURY ST. EDMUNDS MONCHENFLAPJACK	Ben Manchester	02576
BV ROCK UNITED	Rupert Mc Faul	03459
BYZANTIUM	P. De Bruyni	02264
C'MON YOU PE 'N' YELLOW NUTTERS F.C	Derek Jordan	00735
C.A.R.B.E.T. F.C.	Bryan Simpson	00072
C.D. FC EUROPA	Fraser Bryson	00432
C.D. FC MAGNIFICO	H.H. Watson	04083
C.D. FC MAYORES	Nick Warman	03399
C.D. FC MONTE	Mr. G. Burgio	00994
C.D. FC PEDRO	Grant Dalrymple	04637
C.D. FC SAN MARTIN	Shane Wyatt	03248
C.D. FC SANTA CATALINA	K. Mapplebeck	00438
C.D. FC SANTA CLARA	M.J. Midkinhall	03264
C.D. FC SANTA LUCIA	A. Mc Leary	03605
C.D. FC SANTA MARIA	Mr. J. Morelli	00006
C.D. FC SANTA MARTA	Ollie Reynolds	04688
C.D. FC SANTA MONICA	Gary Benjamin	02232
C.D. FC SANTA PAULA	J. Alonso	00475
C.D. FC SANTA TERESA	Markos Felderer	04258
C.D. FC SANTA VERONICA	Yuri Tolh	04400
C.D. FC SANTA VICTORIA	Grant Mc Sinn	03602
C.D. FC SANTA VIRGINIA	Robert Natoli	04287
C.D. FC SANTA YOLANDA	Michael Cormack	03467
C.D. FC SANTIAGO	Robert Levington	02805
C.D. FC SANTIAGO BERNABEU	John Jamieson	02947
C.D. FC SANTIAGO CALATRAVA	Mark Wilson	02922
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA	Chris Allen	03678
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DE LA MONCLOA	J. Stewart	00047
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DE LA PUERTA	John Gilmour	03468
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DE LA RIBERA	Daniel Thornton	03878
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DE LA VEGA	Conor Fee	03876
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DE LA VIRGEN	P. Hendren	02304
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DE LEON	Rony Behringer	03730
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DE LOS CABALLEROS	Michael Roecken	02974
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DE MADRID	Paulo Trindade	03526
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DE MONTERREY	Jose Padron	00454
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DE PARIS	James Bradwood	00733
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DE PORTUGAL	Michael Hay	04722
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DE SANTIAGO	L. Jordan	00900
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DE VALPARAISO	David Jackson	03005
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DE VENEZUELA	Richard Price	00555
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DE VERACRUZ	Miss Linda Holmes	03284
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DE VIGO	Paul De Angelis	04280
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL ESTERO	Ian Cleverly	00452
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL MONTE	Mark Smith	00380
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL PARAGUAY	Mihail Duta	04963
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL PERU	Andrew Jarvis	02804
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL RIO	A. Sinclair	03279
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL SUR	Simon Porch	00290
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VALLE	Dan Brown	04466
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VIENTO	D.J. Carney	04920
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN	Carol Cassar	04004
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN B	Paul D. Huyton	03903
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN C	Goncu Alper	00093
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN D	P. Webb	03788
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN E	Hyla Lederman	03693
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN F	Peter Lowe	02700
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN G	Mr. M. Barone	04402
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN H	Richard Casserley	00252

Team Name	Entrant Name	Team No
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN I	CATERPILLARS	00634
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN J	CD PACH	02949
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN K	CEDAR DRIVE UNITED MGWG	02556
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN L	CELTIC	04063
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN M	"CELTIC 7 RANGERS 1 (HA, HA, HA)"	05056
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN N	CELTIC ALLSTARS	03838
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN O	CELTS UNITED 1	04067
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN P	CELTS UNITED 3	04066
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN Q	CELTS UNITED 4	04068
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN R	CELTS UNITED 5	04064
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN S	CELTS UNITED 6	04063
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN T	CELTS UNITED 7	04775
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN U	CENTENARZA	K. Belsey 02704
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN V	CERKEL FOR EVER	Sevenhant R. 04696
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN W	CHAD WEDNESDAY	R. Goodwin 03662
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN X	CHAMBERS CHALLENGERS	Robin Chambers 04575
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN Y	CHAMELEON F.C.	David Jeannelle 04569
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN Z	CHAMPION ALL STARS	George Patterson 02878
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN AA	CHAMPION LEAGUE ROVERS	Robin Anzal 04309
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN AB	CHAMPION STARS	T.C. Van EE 03874
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN AC	CHAMPION XI	M.J. Benjamin 02653
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN AD	CHAMPIONS	Gerard Blanke 00564
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN AE	CHAMPIONS	Miss D. Mancanielto 00736
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN AF	CHAMPIONS	Ross Mc Kenzie 04092
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN AG	CHAMPIONS	Colin Muir 04444
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN AH	CHAMPIONS 96	G.r. Green 03847
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN AI	CHAMPIONS ALL STARS	Miikka Hamalainen 03422
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN AJ	CHAMPIONS ALL-STAR STRIKERS	Joe D'Urzo 02096
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN AK	CHAMPIONS CHALLENGE	Kenny Green 00338
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN AL	CHAMPIONS CUP CHALLENGE DREAM TEAM	Ross Hendrie 02698
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN AM	CHAMPIONS ELECT	Stuart Proudfeet 02646
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN AN	CHAMPIONS ELECT	Russell Mc Nee 03062
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN AO	CHAMPIONS ELECT XI	Kelvin Such 03983
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN AP	CHAMPIONS F.C.	Imran Hussain 00572
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN AQ	CHAMPIONS LEAGUE ALL STAR II MINUS	Tony Chicdo 02004
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN AR	CHAMPIONS LEAGUE ALL STARS II	Adam Patterson 03663
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN AS	CHAMPIONS LEAGUE ALL STARS UTD.	Aaron Rutlell 00069
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN AT	CHAMPIONS LEAGUE CHAMPIONS	Ian Tweddell 00838
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN AU	CHAMPIONS LEAGUE DREAM TEAM	Marek Rusiel 04628
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN AV	CHAMPIONS LEAGUE LEADERS XI	Mr. R. Hall 02079
C.D. FC SANTIAGO DEL VOLCAN AW	CHAMPIONS LEAGUE MAGIC'S	Bryan Turp

Because of the sheer volume of entries, we are unable to print the full list of entrants this month. We will publish the remaining names next month along with a list of the leading teams. You can find out how your team is doing by ringing 0891 776008 (UK callers) or 0990 443208 (overseas callers). From December 8, you can also make transfers by ringing these numbers. Calls cost 39p per minute cheap rate and 49p per minute all other times. For the 0990 number, the cost is the same as an international call to the UK

CRAIGS CANAN COCKNEYS	Craig Hughes	02600
CREAM CITY BREWERS	Michael Forest	02682
CRIME POUR CHASSURES FOOTBALL CLUB	Kevin Shiels	02326
CRENSHAWS BOYS	Mr. R.J. Davies	04638
CROATIA ZADAR - DIKLE	Milin Josip	03577
CROCKSTARE RED AND WHITE ARMY	Ian Croxford	02907
CRUMLIN UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB	Keith Finglas	02076
CSK MENDES	Mendes	04709
CUMA CUMBERNE	Graham Bryson	00444
CUP CAN IN EUROPE	Paul Prosser	00652
CUSSETTA	John Paul Rodriguez	03023
CUMBERNAULD KIDS	Gary Watson	02489
CUPHYMERS	J.S. Baziijens	02303
CUPPA CHAMPS	Steven Timber	02738
CUPPA COFFEE	D. Stevenson	03360
CUPPA TEA	Nathan Hulatt	02433
CUPPAMANIA CLUB	Malcolm Czopinski	02687
CURLEY C	Mr. D. Cook	03292
CURLY FOOTBALL	Jayson Quinianilla	04948
CYNICS	Fiona De Vos	04787
DAMAGE INC	Chris Beavers	03392
DAMATRIANADS ATHENS	Sarur Miali	04276
DAMLIN SING DREAM TEAM	Andrew Morrison	04389
DANIEL'S GREENFORD HIGH XI	Daniel Usman	04867
DANIEL'S RANGERS	Daniel George	04988
DANIEL'S XI	M. Morlotti	02853
DANIEL'S EURO DREAM SQUAD 95/96	Daniel Shannon	04893
DANISH DYNAMITE	Morten Gwskov	02507
DANISH DYNAMITE	Peter Kristiansen	03409
DANNY'S ALL STARS	Daniel Mortimer	03033
DANUBE BATS	Milan Jelic	03504
DARREN'S WORLD BEATERS	Darren Wiltshire	04056
DARTH VADER'S CHOICE	Rem Bird	00294
DARUSSALAM ALL STARS FOOTBALL CLUB	Nizam Ishi	00573
DAVE'S GAREDEVILS	David Keddie	04562
DAVE TUNZ F.C. S. ANTONIO	David Tunz	02975
DAVIDS CHOSEN FEW ALL STAR'S	David Mac Donald	02084
DAVIDS EURO XI	David Alexander	04726
DAVY HILLS EUROPEAN DYNAMOES	Davy Hill	03395
DAZZA'S GAZZA'S	D.R. Taylor	00074
DEFF CITY	A. Mc Leary	03606
DE GRASSMAAIERS	Van Moessel	04759
DE PORTIVO WILDASH	Nick Wildash	02558
DEASH CULT USA	Maria Bernardo	03749
DEE JAY ALL STARS RULE OK!	Hosseqo	00495
DEFINITELY ... MAYBE ... NAH	Victor Mc	04260
DEJA VOODOO	J.J. Whiiting	03352
DEJAN SAVICEVIC F.C.	K. D'Melio	02257
DELAWARE WIZKIDS	Herb Grch	02222
DELLE ALPI DYNAMOS	J.C. Wilford	00309
DELS DEMONS	D. Mc Caig	03720
DENMARK'S DREAMTEAM 1995/96	Jesper Helmoe	03562
DENNIS VAN AJAX	Julio Doucette	02703
DENTAL CARE	J.T. Rowland	02552
DEPORTIVO CASCARINO	Kevin Mc Allion	00568
DEPORTIVO DIABLO	Damian Byrne	04373
DEPORTIVO LA HEANOR	Nigel Scallin	00275
DEPORTIVO LA JUSTE	Stephen Hurton	02209
DEPORTIVO LARRAJAGA	German Vivi	03990
DEPORTIVO LOS ANGELES	Martin Cutler	02307
DEPORTIVO NAVIL F.C.	Navil Khamlichi	04295
DEPORTIVO OAKFIELD	Mr. A. Hilson	03739
DEPORTIVO TYWYN WONDERS	Justin Cannon	00359
DEPORTIVO WAH! CAVALIERS	Paul Wright	04452
DEREK MC ALLISTER'S EURO ALL STARS	Derek Mc Allister	00642
DESPORTIVO-95 PORTO	Francisco Pimentel	03042
DESSIES DEVILS	Neil Rattray	04387
DHINBEEKSE BOYS	E. Rijnsburger	00853
DIAMOND RAVERS	Terry Amey	04570
DICK'S PICKS	John Dick	02650
DICK'S TIP TOP TEAM	Richard Shaw	02526
DINAMITE MADRID	Aiden Campion	00798
DINAMO BIG BAG	C. Hale	03394
DINAMO EUROPA	Andy Chadwick	02654
DINAMO MISHA	M. Surguladze	03458
DINAMO NEFYN	Andy Britton	04343
DINAMO RONY	R.A. Coombs	00350
DINGLE BAY RANGERS	Alan Delderfield	00373
"DINP "BOLA" BUDIADI F.C."	Ivan Budiadi	03530
DIRTY DOZEN MINUS ONE	Yogesh Patel	04849
DISASTER FOR SCOTLAND	David Mac Donald	04586
DITA XI	O. Abidemi	00895
DIX F.C.	Brian Avellino	03085
DIXE DINAMITES	Petro Giannakopoulos	00636
DIXONS ALL STARS	Jonathan Dixon	04668
DO I NOT LIKE ORANGE	Ivor Fleming	00757
DO I NOT LIKE ORANGE	Raoul Da Silva	00426
DO I NOT LIKE SPOONS	Kashif Alam	02329
DO I NOT LIKE THAT?	R. Campbell	02406
DO I NOT LIKE YORK CITY	Ian Brown	03587
DO LADIES PREFER FLOWERS TO SEAMAN?	Shaun Tomlinson	05026
DO THE WRIGHT THING	A.L. Ross	03962
DO WOMEN PREFER FLOWERS TO SEAMAN?	J. Di Marte	02270
DOCKLEAF THISTLE	Peter E. Leeson	04396
DOGJOY UNITED	R. Peekenpoll	03229
DOIRE DANGERS	Martin Flanagan	04596
DOMESTOS AMSTERDAM	M. Matejtschuk	04665
DON HOWE KNOW'S BEST	John Noone	04474
DON REVIE'S APPRECIATION SOCIETY	Michael Garner	00603
DON'T COME BACK IF YOU LOSE!	Peter Denny	04247
DON'T EXPECT MIRACLES XI	Mr. B. Hubbard	04224
DON'T EXPECT MIRACLES XI	Mr. B. Hubbard	04225
DONALD DUCK FROM DENMARK	Flemming Ballebye	00070
DORCHESTER ROVERS F.C.	Jason Easterbrook	00620
DORTMUND WITCHES OF IPSWICH	Steven Davey	04062
DOUBLE DUTCH TREAT	Coret	03965
DOUBLE STAR F.C.	Mylas Judge	03977
DRAGON	Song Yi	02387
DRAGONS ON FIRE	S. Dash	02029
DRAGONSEED	Edward Ma Ho-Sau	02536
DREADNAUGHT FOOTBALL CLUB	Adekolao Ajabrie	02098
DREAM	Chris Ma Ho-Kee	03298
DREAM DREAM 95/96 FROM THE EYES OF	Price Graham	00602
DREAM ELEVEN	Andy Scanlon	03646
DREAM IPSWICH	Ray Slegg	02695
DREAM TEAM	Anas Dada	03630
DREAM TEAM	Luis Ventura	04644
DREAM TEAM	Brian Benn	04707
DREAM TEAM I	Luis O. Tapia	04562
DUCKIE BIRDS	O.A. Okusanya	04845
DUDES UNITED	Jesus Christ	03445
DUNAMIS DOKTORCHIK	Henny Dokterchik	03729
DUNBAE ROVERS	Jason Mc Tait	00706
DUPREE'S DIAMOND BLUES	Steve Magno	03542
DUTCH VIKINGS	Brian Nauta	02390
DWYER F.C.	David Baslie	03489
DYER'S DREAM DOUBLE WINNERS	Michael Dyer	03706
DYKES DONE ONE	D. Milsnie	04467
DYNAMIC EQUILIBRIUM	R. Davenport	03226
DYNAMO BANGOR	Colin Carlisle	02524
DYNAMO BATCHLEY	David Smith	03589
DYNAMO BECKS	Helen Savage	04480
DYNAMO BICYCLE	David Munro	02074
DYNAMO BORIS EURO-SELECT XI	Mr. Vrinder Road	00270
DYNAMO BROOKLAWN	Pat Leonard	02808
DYNAMO CAUGHT RED HANDED	P. Coleman	03007
DYNAMO CELTIC	Niall Ryan	03974
DYNAMO CHICKEN KIEV	David Powell	03374
DYNAMO COLLINDALE	Stephen Hubbard	04486
DYNAMO CONBAR	A. Searle	04249
DYNAMO DAGENHAM	M. T. Bradley	03950
DYNAMO DAME	Damian Hayes	02586
DYNAMO DASEIN	D. Birchenall	00207
DYNAMO DEAKINS	Tony Deakin	02745
DYNAMO DUBLIN	B. Moran	03773
DYNAMO DUTYFREES	Steve Layfield	05056
DYNAMO EURO	Timmy Griffin	04642
DYNAMO EUROSTAR F.C.	Mr. S.C. Perry	02565
DYNAMO GLIMERTON KOSTEBER	Allan King	04494
DYNAMO HISS	E. Murray	02065
DYNAMO MADRID	Shane Anderson	00705
DYNAMO MADRID F.C.	Nial Mc Garrigle	00759
DYNAMO ORLANDO 94	Barry Brosnan	00044
DYNAMO REAL GLENTORAN	D. Belshaw	03044
DYNAMO REALS	Jonathan Lomas	03890
DYNAMO SHEPTON MALLET	Mr. J.A. Leslie	02646
DYNAMO SPARTAK	David Mac Iver	00262
DYNAMO SPARTAKULAR	Jon Page	00084
"DYNAMO, PARTICK UNITED-MENSTRIE FC"	Scott Mac Michael	03842
DYNAMOES	Edward Havelin	02435
E.C. MILAN	Emilio Carciero	04902
E.C.C.T.S. ONZE CHAMPIONS	Larock	00795
E.U. SUPER STARS	Matthew Briggs	02668
EAGLE-EYE	Chen Chen	03273
EAST END UNITED	Gary Toner	02627
EAST SHIELD RANGERS	A. Stanners	04462
EASTBOURNE BLUEBIRDS	A. Colley	03559
EC ACCLES	Ian Kelly	00722
ECHODECO	Chow Jit Khai	02204
ECOLINT F.A.C.	Amanuel Abate	04555
EDI HANK GREED	B.W. Quirk	00064
ED'S ELEVEN	Ed Fitzgerald	04099
ED'S EURO XI	Edward Groom	02944
EDD'S CHAMPS UNITED	Edward Sutton	02055
EDDIE AND THE EUROPEAN MATCH WINNER	Eddie Clee	03408
EDDIE'S ELEVEN	E. Mason	04907
EDENVALE BELMONT F.C.	Mr. D. Thompson	02765
EDINBURGHERS	D. Bjallingall	04590
EDMONTON OILERS	Ray Lee	02069
EEC UNITED	Paul Rogan	04820
EEU STAR'S	A. Felix	03634
EFFORD UTD	Tracy Douglas	00708
EGYPTIAN RED DYNAMO GUNNERS	S. Ivings	00936
EGYPTIAN STYLE	T.M. Fathy	02846
EL EKTRIK LOCOMOTIV	Mr. B.S. Willerton	02620
EL MATADOR'S	Mark Mastell	04804
ELEANOR'S ELITE	Sean Gostage	00660
ELECTA HALL FFC	Andy Bowen	02740
ELENA SERDETCHKOVA	Michail Kikhtez	04644
ELEVEN ARROWS	A.D. Haine	02492
ELEVEN CHAMPIONS FOOTBALL CLUB	J. Ferreira	04926
ELEVEN FRIENDLY LITTLE CAVEMEN	Allan Lissner	03446
ELEVEN MEN AND TWENTY TWO FEET	Dale Jephson	00545
ELEVEN MEN IN FLIGHT	Graham Fitchett	00225
ELEVEN MEN IN FRIGHT	Robert Wilson	02073
ELEVEN MEN ON THE FIELD	H. Sanders	04883
ELEVENATORS	Darren Fahy	00929
ELITE/FEETAUNITED	S. Milligan	02398
ELLIS ROVERS	Ronan Keenan	04033
ELY FENLANDERS	C. Webber	00823
EMIMA UK	Cattoor Danny	02327
ENDUCTION HOUR	Mr. T. Pattison	03424
ENZO BEARZOT WAS A REAL MANAGER	Paul Tapner	00266
ENZO'S RED SHOES	A. Mackennan	02750
EOIN'S CLASS 11	Eoin Casey	00770
EQUIPE D'EUROPE	FS Mc Adam	00465
EQUIPE X	G. Dajiorgi	02766
ERLAND IS THE BEAST	Gavin Belson	03855
ES PARADIS	Robert Moxon	04325
ESPERANTO EUROCATS	Mr. C. Hawker	04652
ESSENTIAL SELECTION	G. Truchet	04089
ESSEX PROS	Jack Heaslip	00203
ETOILE ASCOT	R.M. Graham	00056
EUNITED	David Johnson	03000
EUREDEC UFC	Nil Wellington	04289
EUREKA VALLEY	Basheer Ahmed	02744
EURO '96 DREAM - A - TEAM	Mark	00875
EURO 11 SELECT	Darren Stock	00095
EURO ALL STARS	Andreas Constantinou	00889
EURO ALL STARS	Andrew Jack	00903
EURO ALL-STARS	Steve Banks	00908
EURO ALLSTARS	James Frenkler	02373
EURO ALLSTARS	Martin Lewis	02970
EURO ALLSTARS	Scott Muir	03643
EURO ALLSTARS	Bijel Tosal	04666
EURO CAMPIONES	M. Mulvenna	03955
EURO CHAMP	Adam Marlow	03909
EURO CHAMPIONS THE NEXT GENERATION	Neil Getty	00078
EURO CHAMPS	David Rogers	00083
EURO CHAMPS	Paul Rees	00330
EURO CHAMPS XI	Mark Graham	02897
EURO DREAM TEAM	Ashley Rotherton	02077
EURO DREAM TEAM XI	Perry Li	00358
EURO ELEVEN STARS	Akinola Jide	04752
EURO ELITE FC	Frank Clarke	04917
EURO ELITE XI	Adam Vaughan	00526
EURO EUPHORIA	Gwyn Crickmon	03655
EURO FINAL HERE I COME	Alan Grieve	02754
EURO GEORDIES	Lee Ridley	02458
EURO GREATS	Craig Dickson	04455
EURO HEROES	Patrick Farrell	03647
EURO HITMEN	R. Pianboni	00943
EURO LIONS	P. Giacopazzi	00629
EURO PENGUINZ 95	R. Gould	00753
EURO PETROLEUM	Niall Mullally	02253
EURO PREDATORS	David Gully	00026
EURO RAIDERS	Simon Ronald	03666
EURO REBELS	Chris Chen	03273
EURO ROVERS (HARFORD'S DREAM)	Philip Grantshaw	04867
EURO SHOWMEN	David Johnson	02832
EURO SLICKERS IN THE GROOVE	Mr. M. Ambrosio	04909
EURO STARS	Carmine Centanni	02584
EURO STARS	Nigel Ellison	03760
EURO STARS	Martin Carter	03886
EURO STARS 95	Ali A. Azam	00965
EURO STARS UNITED	Bruce Ning	02476
EURO STOMPERS	Dino Sammarco	03974
EURO SUPERSTARS F.C.	Anthony Faccenda	02957
EURO TRASH	Stuart Bates	00503
EURO TRASH	Scott Harris	02629
EURO UNNIGHTED	Raman Harihar	03978
EURO UNITED	Chris Mulligan	00372
EURO UNITED	Youssi Nabi	04067
EURO UNITED F.C.	Miss A. Stringer	02456
EURO USEFUL F.C.	J. Kendel	04407
EURO'S BEST	Dan Pacheco	02345
EURO'S BESTOS	Syed Hussain	00867
EURO- "PING" TO WIN	Mr. R. Julien	02352
EURO-CHAMPS	G. Schiavetta	02045
EURO-HOTSPURS DREAM	James Wood	04687
EURO-MAZING	Ankush Nandra	04094
EURO-SPARTAK	Peter Simkins	03363
EURO-STAR XI'S	Vinod Jayakaran	03203
EUROBEST	J.P. Stainnack	04789
EUROCHAMPS	J.C. Costa	00964
EUROCHAMPS	John Mariscalco	02752
EUROELEVEN	Neill O' Rourke	03967
EUROKIWIS	Phillip Tutt	03829
EUROPA DT II	S. Knezevic	02682
EUROPA ECOSSE	Antony Visocchi	04440
EUROPA FC	Angelo Vielloti	00864
EUROPA INTERNATIONAL	R.M. Sheen	04488
EUROPA SPECIALS	P. Dyke	04825
EUROPA STAR	Nick Griffin	00248
EUROPA UNITED	M. Morgan	00682
EUROPE ALL STARS	Jonne Jarvi	03833
EUROPE ALLSTARS UTD	Giordano Sazgin	02094
EUROPE CLUB	George Vilchov	00287
EUROPE F.C.	Mark Barr	00996
EUROPE FANTASY TEAM	Michael Sirachan	02987
EUROPE ONE	Marek Nun	03776
EUROPE SELECT XI	E. Solano	04735
EUROPE UNITED	Fotios Padazopoulos	04832
EUROPE WILD ANIMALS	David Jarrett	02403
EUROPE'S BEST	Declan Cusack	04036
EUROPE'S BEST XI	George Roberts	00624
EUROPE'S BEST!	L. Buonocore	04592
EUROPE'S FINEST IV	Janesh Nunkoo	03698
EUROPE'S LUCKNOW LIONS	Tristan Treson-Howells	04772
EUROPEA FC	Simon Barclay	04873
EUROPEAN ALL STAR SELECT	Amit Sharma	04522
EUROPEAN ALL STARS	Hope Umana	03466
EUROPEAN ALL STARS	James Anderson	02653
EUROPEAN ALL STARS	O. Mc Dermott	00497
EUROPEAN ALL STARS	R. Edgson	00807
EUROPEAN ALL STARS	Alan Campbell	02207
EUROPEAN ALL STARS	Paul Campbell	03632
EUROPEAN ALL STARS	Jon Pearce	04745
EUROPEAN ALL STARS PAR EXCELLANCE?	Lia Rogers	02449
EUROPEAN ALL STARS SELECT XI	John King	00023
EUROPEAN ALL-STARS ATHLETIC	Stephen McDonald	02920
EUROPEAN ALLSTARS	G. Sidhu	00335
EUROPEAN ALLSTARS	James Almond	03923
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS	Mike Findlay	02503
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS	J. Ghatora	04650
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS	Mark Gemmell	04642
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS 1967 LISBON LION	Kevin Doherty	03654
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS ELECT XI	Amjad Ali	00343
EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS SELECT XI	Paul Atkins	00827
EUROPEAN CONNECTION	Ben Bulthuis	05050
EUROPEAN DREAM RANGERS	Gary Booth	02706
EUROPEAN DREAM TEAM	Daniel Connelly	05006
EUROPEAN DREAM TEAM (BY SAMIR)	Samir El Rashidy	03078
EUROPEAN DREAM TEAM XI	Kevin Maicaky	02044
EUROPEAN ELEVEN 1995/96	Lee Staples	00465
EUROPEAN ELITE FC	S. Holliday	04036
EUROPEAN FANTASY XI	Niall Shaw	03937
EUROPEAN GLORY	J.C. Fase	03484
EUROPEAN LADS WITH BALLS	Nick Clifford	02366
EUROPEAN MASTERS	Vikramaditya	03994
EUROPEAN MASTERS UNITED	David Eoar	03432
EUROPEAN RAIDERS	H. Shahid	00242
EUROPEAN RAIDERS F.C.	Robert Swaby	00920
EUROPEAN RAMS	Lorna Dick	03924
EUROPEAN RANGERS	P. Mc Grath	03386
EUROPEAN RED STAR ELITE XI	Kevin Rodgers	02038
EUROPEAN STARLIGHT STRIKERS	E. Haapimaa	04730
EUROPEAN STEAMROLLERS	Andrew Meligan	04332
EUROPEAN SUPER ELEVEN	Oliver Heaton	00029
EUROPEAN SUPER STARS	R. Heaton	03089
EUROPEAN SUPER GUNS	Mr. R.B. Mistry	02977
EUROPEAN SUPERSTARS	Robert Burton	02964
EUROPEAN WANDERS	G. Jardine	05006
EUROPEAN XI	Paul Whitlet	04037
EUROPEAN XI	Kevin Burton	04544
EUROPEAN'S FINEST	J. Luscombe	00526
EUROPEANS SOCCER ALL STARS WITH ME!	Michael Crisson	00654
EUROPES ALL-STARS XI	Fernando Rodriguez	00608
EUROPES BEST ELEVEN	Eoin Carney	02634
EUROPES CHAMPIONS XI	Gareth Clayton	02439
EUROPUSPORTSPAGREITAL NETHPA	Mr. A.J. Trett	03824
EUROSAPIEN ALL STARS	Steven Mc Millan	02674
EUROSTAR	Roger Williams	00396
EUROSTARS	Jolfren Omar	03050
EUROSTARS UNITED	Timothy Middleedhar	03995
EUROSTARS UTD	Mahesh Ram	02956
EUROSTRIKERS UTD 95-96	R.J. Kimble	00622
EUROTRASH VII	S.G. Pullin	02638
EUROVISION SONG CONTEST (ESC '56)FC	Ace Freitmen	00446
EUSKAL HERRIA	Alan Hinchy	02932
EVEN BETTER THAN THE REAL THING	James Whiteside	02443
EVERBOTTOM - SWEET F.C.	Patrick Hendron	00694
EVERTON '95	S. Brown	03772
EVERTON 2ND'S	Fionn Solscheck	04560
EVERTON ALL STARS XI	Mr. Carl English	04346
EVERTON REJECTS	Raymond Liv	00662
EXCEL F.C.	E.P. Domingues	02923
EXPECT NO MERCY	V. Brumfield	02294
EZA'S ALL-STARS	Ian Hynds	00435
F.C. 1888 PARADISE	Sean Kelly	04392
F.C. AARDAPPLETJES	S.O. Connor	04450
F.C. B.S. HEATING	Mr. C. Rawlinson	03223
F.C. BANNERMAN	Chris Howes	04894
F.C. BARCELONA	Duane Sewell	00558
F.C. BARCELONA	Tim Taylor	02964
F.C. BATON ROUGE	Tom Vicek	00337
F.C. BERNARDO	S. Bernard	03406
F.C. CANADA	Andrew Remedios	04799
F.C. CARLOS KICKABALL	Howard J. West	00638
F.C. CHAMPION OF THE CHAMPIONS	Gurung Tanka	03553
F.C. CLOG	Jim Van Eker	02533
F.C. CONTINENTAL	Scott Grant	02253
F.C. DOMINATION	Bob Sankov	04792
F.C. DOOGAL	Ian Dooley	03025
F.C. EGDENDAR	Raymond Petke	03368
F.C. EURO	Damoon Jabbari	02346
F.C. EUROMASTERS - HARDCORE!	Dan West	00439
F.C. EUROPEAN TOURERS	Matthew Montano	02220
F.C. EUROSTAR	Nick Buckland	02274
F.C. EUROSTAR	Sven Sauer	04200
F.C. FANTOT KIMAX	I.F. Rizal	02544
F.C. GARGER	Andrew Garger	03680
F.C. GOOR-UNITED	S. Stevens	03495
F.C. GOURDON	Paul Davidson	03382
F.C. HIGHWAY	Tony Tallis	02573
F.C. INDIGO THE * "LIGHTOLIERS"**	Tim Hilshuijsen	03449
F.C. KACAR	Rebecca Sacar	04423
F.C. LIBERO	David Mac Donald	00268
F.C. LIVE FOR EVER - CELTIC	Stuart Lockhart	00347
F.C. LUCCA	G. Catalanotto	00956
F.C. MACKEM	M. Johnson	03800
F.C. MARTE	Gomes Diesta A.	02954
F.C. MOLINEUX	Daniel Lister	03344
F.C. NAPA	Richard Shayane	00509
F.C. NOLI	Conor Nolan	00824
F.C. PADE	Vic Pace	02879
F.C. PAD THAT	"Trayner, K"	04537
F.C. PANNA	M.J. Van Ee	04977
F.C. PANTS	R. Morrison	00200
F.C. POPPET PEOPLE	Rob Gill	00525
F.C. RAPID AMSTERDAM	Amjad Kazim	02476
F.C. REAL ATHLETICO INTERNATIONAL	Iain Mac Pherson	00923
F.C. ROMA	F. Cortellessa	00766
F.C. SAN DIEGO	Temmerman Diego	03502
F.C. SANTA SPREES	A.M. Dolphin	04376
F.C. SANTIAGO BERNABEU	M. Alonso	00553
F.C. SARAJEVO	Halid Mujkanovic	04023
F.C. SBARGO	Rhys Jones	04603
F.C. SCORPIONS	Goldwin Williams	02748
F.C. SCUDETTO '95 - PRIMAVERA	Mario Morlotti	00496
F.C. SINFU	Nadir Masood	02058
F.C. SUTNEVILJ	Toni Lahdensivu	02966
F.C. UEFA	T. Yanagisawa	00786
F.C. WESSEX ALL STARS	Ian Jackson	00049
F.C. ZEZINHO	Jose Oliveira	00792
F.P.S.R.	F. Rubino	00673
F.S. HOTSPUR	Mr. F. Shah	04827
F.T.S. FRANKENAS TOP STARS	W. Frankena	00999
FAIRFAX COUNTY ROVERS	Christopher Stephens	00886
FAIRFAX FC	B. Bieron	03383
FANTASTIC ELEVEN	Terry Madigan	04395
FAR EAST 0061! INTERNAZIONALE	Hiroshi Mishida	03460
FAS SCHEETMERS OF LONGWOOD VILLAGE	Dennis O' Rourke	03698
FC AJAX AMSTERDAM	Patrick Graham	03425
FC ALL STARS	K. Mahood	02243
FC AMERICA	Joseph Costa	02535
FC AMSTERDAM	Marco Thiele	04057
FC ARCHILES	Stuart Mills	00208
FC BIGLAND	Jamal Hussain	03673
FC BRUNSCHWILER	Fabian Brunschwiler	00472
FC BRYAN MUNICH	Stephen Littleton	03620
FC BUSA	Andrew P. Busa	04274
FC CAMPIONI	John Craig Cullis	04660
FC CAMPSIE	Mr. L. Campbell	04040
FC DAKTARI	Jongenbeelen Rene	04762
FC DONEGAL	Hugh Boyle	02330
FC EASY ENDURANCE	J. Wit	04760
FC EDINA	Robert Winnick	04949
FC ENIT JOSS	S. Hozhabrafkan	00003
FC ESPANA-BARCAI VIVA JOHAN CRUYFF	Roberto Lopez Baquero	04553
FC EUROPE	D.J. Chaleyssin	02546
FC FONTAUVE	Carlo Crolla	02579
FC GOLD-DIGGERS	Steinar Jensen	04454
FC HELDER OF TORONTO	Helder Marcos	02305
FC HELENA	Bobby Micewski	04489
FC INTER MEZZO	Tony Griffith	02636
FC INTERNATIONAL ALL STAR XII	Emerson Cozier	03565
FC INTERNAZIONALE KAMEI YOKOHAMA	Yuzo Kamei	02336
FC MALLING	Soren Hansen	03500
FC MANUEL	Manuel	02539
FC MARTAHUA	Topi Kilpelainen	03077
FC MOORKINO	Antony Ashman	04027
FC MOST BEAUTIFUL KICKING GIRLS	Poesen Jos	03496
FC MOTHERLODE	Tim Mc Carthy	04290
FC MUCHA	Minoru Ozaki	04649
FC MUNCIE	Pedro Velazco	04475
FC ONTARIO	M. Paszczynski	04359
FC PAUFFY	Paulus Rohha	00968
FC POCHI	Tetsuya - Furukawa	03727
FC ROSAS	Muylle Joachim	02429
FC SOUTHWOOD UNITED	Erik Oosidyk	03858
FC STACEYOS SPURS	Robert Stacey	00997
FC STAR	Aurie Bhatty	00796
FC STELLAR	Maina Kigundu	03008
FC STRIKERS	A. Elahi	03378
FC SUNE	Martin	02884
FC SUPER LION	Lee Hirst	03674
FC SUPERMAN	Callebout Dirk	00729
FC THE WARTHOGS FROM HELL	Ivan Paokopovich	00933
FC TYKES	Andrew Neale	04369
FC VILLA PARK	Mohammed	05044
FEAR OF THE DARK	Selim Dundar	03080
FEEM F.C.	Fahim Baqir	00436
FELFELI WANDERERS	Arash Felfeli	00353
FENERBAHCE	Can Atik	02028
FENERBAHCE ALL - STARS	Tahir Kapucu	00905
FENERBAHCE IS THE BEST OF ALL	Selim Dundar	02874
FERAYN	Gianni Di Lascenzo	03220
FERENC PUSKASES ALL TIME NESS XI	Pete Lawrence	02302
FERENECRASSHOPLEG	Michael Byrne	00079
FEYENOORD FOREVER	Joost Claessens	02328
FEYO ROVERS	O.A. Okusanya	04846
FIFA FLYERS XI	Peter Thompson	00078
FINESSE ELEVEN	Baba Taal	00793
FK KONIN	M. Relic	03026
FK SARAJEVO	Amir Nuhanovig	03043
FLAMENCO JUNIORS	A. Lewis	03722
FLAMENGO	Eduardo Eskenazi	00967
FLASH AMSTERDAM	James Phillips	00778
FLAT BACK FOUR	T. Maguire	02694
FLATIN'S FABULOUS	Torbjorn Fistin	04047
FLAVE CHAMPIONS	Flavio Devita	02022
FLIELD OF FANCY	R. Bacon	00976
FLORENTINA RULE	Robin Hopkins	00972
FOLENKO'S GREEN AND ORANGE ARMY	Liam Foley	00687
FOOD FOR EYES UNITED	M. Willner	03547
FOOTBALL CLUB CORVI JAKARTA INDONES	Alex Christian	04734
FOOTBALL CLUB FARPLAY	Fifi Nyenako	03400
FOOTBALL CLUB GOAL OF EUROPE	Nguyen Lau	04892
FOOTBALL CLUB OF TORONTO	Luis Correia	03508
FOOTBALL CLUB SUPER STARS OF EUROPE	Samer Saad	02976
FOOTBALL FOR FUN	A. Bailey	00040
FOR-FORTUNATO	M. Rosato	00849
FOREST CLOSE UTD	John Ravanagh	03873
FOREST GUMPER'S	Chris Ofiko	03367
FOREST GUMPS	Nick Andrews	00277
FORFAR ATHLETICS	Andrew Hickie	00233
FORRES MECHANICS RESERVES	C.G. Watson	03952
FORTALEZA	Alirton Saboya Valente Junior	04935
FORTUNA 23	S. O' Connor	03295
FORTUNA EUROPEAN ENIGMAS	Norman Gibson	03964
FORTUNES ALWAYS HIDING	Nick Ball	04469
FORWARDS ATHLETIC	Hjalti Kristjansson	03208
FOREST NO MERCY	James Brambridge	00296
FORZA GARFIELD	Jan Havard Markdal	04422
FORZA JUVENTUS	Mario Ottaviano	04254
FORZA JUVENTUS - UNITED STATES	Mario Ruta	00989
FORZA MILAN	M. Metzlaff	02325
FORZA MULTI	Mike Craig	03342
FORZA NERAZZURRI!	H. Boyle	02000
FORZA Q.P.R.	Steve Babbock	00934
FORZA STEVE B'S WANDERERS	Zeljko Zelic	04273
FORZA VELEZ	Jas Heer	03084
FORZA VENICE PEDS '95	Conrad Cheng	03268
FORZA WUNDERTEAM	Ronan O'Dowd	02929
FOUR SEASONS FC	Mr. S. Noci	00045
FOWARDS HAVE MORE FUN	"Pelthoop, A."	03326
FOZZIES FOZZEBERRY FLOPS	Gordon Foster	00726
FRANKLIN COUNTY FC	Georg Miller	02057
FRANTASTIC XI	Paul Francis	04406
FRASER MC FRASER F.C.	A. Mackie	00262
FRAY BENTOS SPURS	D.J. Ellis	03605
FRAYBENTOS PANIFSTEWAIKOS F.C.	Graham Mc Ewan	02003
FREDERICK AND JOHNS UNITED F.C.	Fred Richard

Argentina

Maradona's boost for Boca

Back at Boca . . . Maradona is at home among the fans and the furore

DIEGO MARADONA's return has brought some new life to the mediocre Argentinian League scene, with a notable improvement in gate receipts, but he still cannot keep out of trouble.

In his first four matches for Boca Juniors he collected three yellow cards, two for protesting loud and long, and one for a tackle from behind. One more booking will mean an automatic one-match suspension.

The ballyhoo surrounding Maradona's comeback still has not abated. His two home appearances drew crowds of 60,000, with touts doing a roaring trade and some tickets going for five times their face value.

Maradona has been taking the field to the accompaniment of fireworks, balloons and a horn serenade. Boca still are not playing well, especially in attack, but my prediction that Maradona would bring new enthusiasm to a team torn by internal strife has come off.

Boca won three and drew the other of Maradona's first four games. They are the only team with an unbeaten record, and are a point behind the leaders, San Lorenzo, with a game in hand.

Diego's first game was a 1-0 home win over Colon. His every move was scrutinised to such an extent that we learned he had touched the ball 94 times, played it well 54 times and badly 40, took five corners well and three badly, had two shots – both free-kicks which went wide – and was fouled five times with none against.

In his second game, against Argentinos Juniors, he scored the only goal – his first in the Argentinian League for 14 years. He had made his First Division debut for Argentinos Juniors 19 years earlier, almost to the day, but had never previously played against them. During his first spell with Boca Juniors, in 1981, his contract forbade him from facing Argentinos, and when he returned from Europe in 1993, playing a few matches with Newell's Old Boys, they did not meet. Maradona's nephew Sergio Lopez was in the Argentinos side in the recent meeting.

Another veteran, Enzo Francescoli, is a key figure in the River Plate team. He helped them to remain unbeaten until their 11th game, when he was rested. Result: a 2-0 defeat by Huracan in the Super Cup.

River have finally 'found' goalkeeper Joaquin Irigoytia, who played on this year's Under-20 World champion team, but has been reserve to the reserves at his club. Eventually he was given a chance after poor displays by Burgos and Sodero.

Racing Club, joint second with River Plate, Boca Juniors and Velez Sarsfield, are having their best season for years. They have signed several new players but are struggling to find the money to pay for them and creditors are knocking at the door.

Neighbours Independiente signed even more newcomers, 13 in all, and do not have the same financial problems, but they are not getting results and are near the bottom with only one win in 10 starts.

Estudiantes de la Plata, who returned to the top division this season, have done even worse. Their record – no wins, five draws, six defeats – suggests an immediate drop unless they improve soon.

Joe Pastoriza, coach of Argentinos Juniors, has left the club to become national coach of Guatemala. Roberto Saporiti has taken over.

ERIC WEIL

MEN IN THE NEWS

PELE and FIFA boss **JOAO HAVELANGE** do not see eye to eye, again. This time the dispute is over the newly-formed International Players' Association, formed under Diego Maradona's leadership.

Pele, who is now Brazil's Sports Minister, supports the new group, but Havelange says FIFA refuses to recognise IPA and will deal only with national associations.

"If IPA had existed last year," says Pele, "players would not have agreed to play under the intense midday heat in the World Cup in the USA." He has been working on a project that would make players free agents three years after turning professional, and would enable them to negotiate their own transfers.

Havelange says that pro soccer in Brazil would be finished if this were to happen. As for Maradona, he says that he is involved with IPA only because his playing career is almost over. "In 1986, when he was a star, he wouldn't have thought of strike action or anything like it," Havelange said.

Pele has been booed by Santos fans at recent games. He is a director of the club where he played with such distinction, and is being blamed because Santos have not bought any new players for some time.

JULIO GRONDONA has been re-elected unanimously as president of Argentina's FA. He has held the job since 1979 and will continue virtually until the end of the century.

Grondona also is a vice-president of FIFA, the world ruling body, but his lack of foreign languages means that he cannot run for president.

ANTHONY DE AVILA failed a drugs test after a recent game and Wilson Perez, a fellow Colombian international and his club-mate at America Cali, was detained by police for drug possession. De Avila had been prescribed a medicine by the club doctor, but claimed he bought the wrong one by mistake. He was suspended for six games; the case against Perez has still to b e heard.

FLAVIO ZANDONA of Velez Sarsfield has been suspended for four games after hitting Edmundo of Flamengo at the end of a Supercup match.

Edmundo and team-mate Romario, who had joined in the disturbance, were banned for two matches. Zandona received support from Brazilian journalists, who said that Edmundo had it coming.

HAROLD LOZANO, a Colombian international midfielder, has swapped one club for another with the same name. He has gone from America of Colombia to America of Mexico in a loan deal. The Mexicans are paying $500,000 to keep him for the rest of the season, with an option to buy.

ERIC WEIL

Backing . . . Pele supports Maradona's IPA

Eric Weil on the ten different ways to win a league title in South America

Leagues of their own

THE CLASSICAL format of teams in a league playing each other home and away, with the club gaining most points becoming champions, was forsaken by most South American countries long ago . . . and regular dates for the start and end of the season have gone, too.

The season in South America always had been from early March to Christmas to avoid the heat of January and February, but 10 years ago Argentina decided to go European and have a season from late August to June.

The official – and wrong – reason was that this would enable clubs and national teams to tour Europe during the close season. It never happened and clubs still tour during the season.

Venezuela, the one South American country where soccer is not the most popular sport, followed suit, and now play from August to May to avoid clashing with baseball. Colombia also went 'European' this year.

The other seven countries continue to play from February/March to the end of the year, but sometimes overlap into the next year when championships are delayed for some reason.

ARGENTINA now has two First Division championships a year – an opening tournament from mid-August to mid-December and a closing championship from the end of February to June. In each the 20 clubs play each other once, but the two champions do not meet to decide the season's title.

BOLIVIA has a 12-club national championship in two stages. In each the teams play in two groups followed by a final round, with the winners of both tournaments playing for the title.

BRAZIL plays the state championships during the first half of the year and the national championship, which does not only include teams on merit, but also on drawing power and political clout, during the second half. This tournament frequently changes in numbers and format. This year 24 teams are divided into two groups in which clubs face each other twice in two stages. The two group winners in each stage qualify for the semi-finals. There is also a knockout Cup between the two leading teams of each State (of the previous season) which is played through most of the year.

CHILE sticks to the classical formula with a 16-team First Division in which teams meet each other home and away, but while the winner is champion, the runners-up, who take the second berth in the Libertadores Cup, are decided by a play-off between teams second to fifth. There are also promotion-relegation play-offs and a Cup with first-round group play before the First Division starts and further knock-out rounds during the season, from early March to the end of the year.

COLOMBIA plays an opening and closing championship, one with 16 First Division teams playing each other twice and another with the teams in two groups and a winners' play-off. This is followed by an eight-team final round for which teams obtaining most points during the whole season (March to December) qualify.

This year, however, the championship consisted of only one tournament in the classic style, which finished in May before the Copa America. Now a new season has started which runs as in Europe, with the same three-stage format.

ECUADOR also has a two-stage championship, with 12 First Division clubs in two sections, followed by a final round in each stage. The two winners play off for the title of the March-to-December season.

PARAGUAY starts in March with a national championship – a semi-knock-out with first-round group play – which includes provincial champions with First Division teams. This is followed by a 13-team First Division in which clubs play each other twice (until near Christmas).

PERU has a 16-team First Division with clubs playing each other home and away from March to December. Second place is decided by a play-off between the second to fifth-placed clubs.

URUGUAY now has First Division opening and closing championships, with the 13 teams playing each other once in each and the top two playing each other for the title. Then comes a mini-league between the five teams to obtain most points during the March to December season to pick the two Libertadores Cup candidates. This often overlaps into the following year.

VENEZUELA brought six more teams into the September-to-May First Division and played the 22 games in two groups, with the top three going into a final round.

Brazil

Cruzeiro quit with five off

THE Brazilian FA and FIFA are debating what to do about Cruzeiro of Brazil, who are accused of pulling a fast one to avoid defeat in a South American Supercup quarter-final against Sao Paulo.

Cruzeiro had four men sent off in the first half, which ended with Sao Paulo leading 1-0. A rout looked inevitable, but after three minutes of the second half, Cruzeiro's Luis Fernando Gomes collapsed and was carried off. The team doctor said he could not continue and with all three subs having been used earlier, Cruzeiro were down to six men: one below the number needed to continue the match.

The game was abandoned but the furore it caused has now gone up to the top for resolution. The allegation is that Gomes was faking (no opponent was near him when he collapsed) and that his 'injury' was arrived at deliberately to prevent the game from being finished.

The rumpus had begun with a dreadful foul by Rogeiro, the central defender, who was sent off after kicking an opponent in the face. The decision was perfectly correct, but Cruzeiro protested so fiercely that three more men were shown red cards.

This case has drawn parallels with that of six years ago in Rio, when Chilean goalkeeper Roberto Rojas feigned injury in order to get a World Cup qualifier abandoned. Rojas, who claimed to have been hit by a firecracker, eventually was banned from the game for life. Brazil were awarded the match, Chile were banned from the 1994 World Cup, and manager Carlos Aravena was suspended for five years.

Vasco da Gama's Nelson is in trouble, too. He faces an inquiry after TV cameras showed him grabbing an opponent's genitals. This time Cruzeiro were on the receiving end.

Cruzeiro, meanwhile, have won Group A of the first stage of the Brazilian championship, and go into the last four along with Fluminense, winners of Group B.

Flamengo, having invested £8 million in Edmundo and Romario, finished the first stage bottom of Group A. Romario, impatient as ever, has criticised his club-mates in public, and there are rumours that Edmundo, who has not settled well, may be on his way out.

IN BRIEF

IN URUGUAY, the two biggest clubs, Penarol and Nacional, were tied at the top of the First Division closing championship with one game to play.

Penarol won the opening championship after a play-off against Liverpool, and will be automatic champions if they win the second event. If not, they face another play-off with Nacional or Rampla Juniors.

Rampla still have a faint chance of finishing top, despite losing 7-0 to a Nacional team who had been doing only light training in an effort to hurry up payments of unpaid wages.

Uruguayan soccer is still in financial difficulty, and only three clubs – Penarol, River Plate and Defensor Sporting – are up to date with payments.

Midfielder Juan Carrasco, who has played for 12 clubs, has rejoined Nacional. He made his debut for them in 1974, and is now 39.

IN CHILE, Marcelo Salas tops the scorers with 17 goals, and is the main reason why Universidad de Chile are clear favourites for the championship. They had a six-point lead over Universidad Catolica with seven games to play. Colo Colo were third, having been badly hit by injuries.

IN PERU, the regular championship finished with last year's top two, Sporting Cristal and Alianza Lima, in the same positions. But in another change of format the top eight carry on playing for the title, adding to the points obtained so far.

Two clubs have exchanged their coaches, with Chilean Ramon Estay going to Municipal and Peruvian Cesar Uribe joining Alianza Lima.

IN BOLIVIA, The Strongest are still near the bottom and seeking their fourth coach this year, having got rid of Brazilian Del Lacerda.

They also lost the La Paz classic 1-0 to Bolivar, who have most points in the second stage of the tournament so far.

IN PARAGUAY, first-round winners Olimpia took the second-round lead with four games to go, after beating champions Cerro Porteno 1-0.

Olimpia will clinch the title outright if they win the second stage.

IN ECUADOR, new national coach Francisco Maturana says the championship is not competitive enough – just as the top six start on the final round.

The six are Nacional, Liga Universitario Quito, Barcelona, Emelec, Aucas and Espoli.

ERIC WEIL

WAFU CUP

Big guns in final

IVORY COAST team Africa Sports will meet holders Bendel Insurance in the final of the annual West African Football Union Cup.

The two-legged tie is an opportunity for both clubs to make up for disappointing exits from the Confederation of African Football Cup earlier this year. Bendel Insurance, winners of the CAF Cup last year, suffered a stunning second-round defeat at the hands of Congolese team Inter Club, while big-spending Africa Sports were humiliated at home by Kaloum Stars of Guinea.

The two teams were among the favourites for success in the CAF Cup but after their surprise reversal they had to turn their attention to the WAFU Cup, a regional tournament confined to teams from eight countries in the west African region.

Africa Sports reached the final the hard way with wins over Ghanaian, Nigerian and Benin opponents, while a series of withdrawals meant that Bendel Insurance needed just one tie to book their place in the final. The Nigerian club, based in Benin City, easily beat Horoya of Guinea 4-0 on aggregate to go through to the decider.

Africa Sports suffered a major scare in the first round before beating Cape Coast Mysterious Dwarfs of Ghana 2-1 on aggregate. Their second-round opponents, Enugu Rangers, also proved a tough proposition but were eventually beaten 3-1 on aggregate in the semi-finals.

Africa Sports will be at home in the first leg of the final.

MARK GLEESON

ALL-AFRICA GAMES

Revenge is golden for Egypt

EGYPT gained a measure of revenge for their elimination by Nigeria in the Olympic Games qualifiers when they beat the Junior Eagles en route to the old medal at the All-Africa Games in Zimbabwe.

The Egyptians, who had suffered a narrow 4-3 aggregate defeat by the Nigerians in August, won 1-0 in the semi-final and then went on to beat the hosts 3-1 in the Final. They had hired former Dutch World Cup star Ruud Krol as coach and had been on tour in the United States ahead of their two-legged tie against Nigeria.

But a 3-2 defeat in Lagos and a 1-1 draw in Cairo in the return encounter ended that dream and left just the All-Africa Games to aim for.

The Nigerian team that lost to Egypt in Harare was distinctly different to the side that had won just weeks earlier. Missing were the likes of Nwankwu Kanu of Ajax, Celestine Babayaro of Anderlecht and inspirational midfielder Austin Okocha, who plays for Eintracht Frankfurt.

Their return to the Nigerian team for the final set of qualifiers next March will make the Junior Eagles an almost certain bet for Atlanta. They will play Zimbabwe over two legs for the right to travel to the Summer Olympics.

The other ties pit Togo against Guinea, fourth at the All-Africa Games, and Ghana against Cameroon. Cameroon are reigning African under-20 champions and have promoted several of their Olympic players into the senior side for the upcoming African Nations Cup finals.

MARK GLEESON

WEST AFRICA

In **Nigeria** Joe Bonfrere, assistant to Clemens Westerhof ***(below)*** at the World Cup finals last year, is the new man in charge of the national team. He replaces Brazilian Carlos Alberto, who did not return to Nigeria after the team's disappointing showing at the US Cup in June. Nigeria will meet Asian Games winners Uzbekistan in a

two-legged tie to decide the Afro-Asian Cup.

In **Senegal** Diaraf Dakar beat AS Douanes 2-0 to win the Cup.

Roger Palmgren, who once worked with Sven-Goran Eriksson at Sampdoria, will lead the **Sierre Leone** national side at January's Nations Cup finals . Mighty Blackpool finished top of the table at the halfway stage of the championship and now qualify for the West African Football Union Cup next season.

Semassi Sokode romped to the **Togo** championship by six points from Etoile Filante. It was their fourth successive title.

Africa Sports are the only team left with a 100 per cent record after the early round of matches in the second phase of the **Ivory Coast** championship. The other five clubs who made it through to the deciding group are reigning champions ASEC Abidjan, Stella Abidjan, Stade Abidjan, SO Armee and Wazi, playing in the Super League for the first time.

Real Banjul of **Gambia** have been suspended from African competition for a year for walking off after 70 minutes of their African Champions Cup second leg against Mbilinga of Gabon in Libreville in protest at the referee. They were disqualified and Mbilinga went through to the quarter-finals.

CENTRAL AFRICA

Racing Bafoussamwere are the new leaders in **Cameroon** with 42 points from 24 matches, one point more than Unisport Bafang.

Daring Club of Motema Pemba, winners of the African Cup-winners Cup last December, have lost their stranglehold on **Zaire**'s Independence Cup. They went out in the quarter-finals to a last-minute goal for Saint-Eloi Lupopo. The trophy was won by AC Sodigraf of Kinshasa, who hammered Mbong Sports 4-0 in the Final.

EAST AFRICA

Kenya Breweries won the East African Super Cup final, beating Express of Uganda 1-0 in the Final in Kampala. Rivatex won the Moi Golden Cup in **Kenya**, beating Ulinizi 2-0.

Timothy Ayeikoh has taken over from Polly Ouma as **Uganda**'s national team coach. Ouma resigned after Uganda's failure to qualify for the Nations Cup Finals. Ayeikoh's appointment has not proved popular with fans and media, who have been clamouring for David Otti.

Express took over the lead in the championship table from Uganda Electricity Board. They have 64 points to UEB's 60 with two matches in hand. Nsambya FC, the country's oldest team, are already relegated.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

The Confederation of African Football, holding an executive committee meeting in **Botswana**, has decided to tighten up on the spate of withdrawals from Nations Cup and other qualifying competitions. In future, countries withdrawing from the Nations Cup preliminaries will be fined and barred from competing in the next tournament.

Mario Coluna, the former Benfica and Portugal captain, has been presented with the Confederation of African Football's gold merit award. Coluna won two European Cup medals, and 57 caps. He is now a technical adviser to the Mozambican Football Federation.

Cape Town Spurs, who were pipped at the post for last year's championship, are involved in another head-to-head battle for this year's title in **South Africa**. The club, coached by former England Under-21 international Mich d'Avray, lead Mamelodi Sundowns by two points in the closing stages of the championship.

Orlando Pirates, last year's champions and third in the table, have signed Liberian international Friday Roberts, and fourth-placed Kaizer Chiefs have hired Jeff Butler as coach – his third spell with the team.

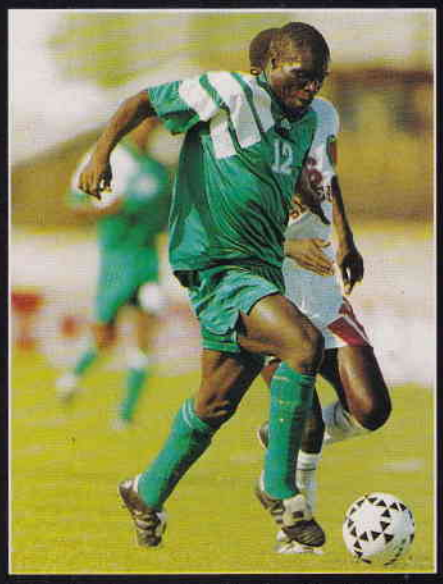
Zambian international Wedson Nyirenda has left Cape Town club Hellenic to join Al-Riyadh in Saudi Arabia.

In **Zambia** Faz chairman Jabes Zulu and vice-chairman Wilfred Wonani have been suspended for financial irregularities. Zulu has been accused by a disciplinary committee of using £16,000 of funds for his own ends.

Caps United led Blackpool by two points at the three-quarter mark of the League in **Zimbabwe**. Defending champions Dynamos were in fourth place, just four points off the lead and with two games in hand.

NORTH AFRICA

Former French and Cameroon national team manager Henri Michel has taken over as national coach of **Morocco**, from Brazilian Gilson Sigueira Nunes. The Moroccans failed to qualify for the Nations Cup. Zambian striker Kenneth Malitoli



(above) has spurned an offer from Saudi Arabia and stays with **Tunisia**'s Esperance.

MARK GLEESON

CHINA

Referee scandal causes turmoil

FOUR REFEREES and a competition supervisor have been suspended by the Chinese FA as a result of allegations of corruption and incompetence.

The majority of referees stand accused of 'taking the red package' – in other words, accepting cash which usually arrives from banks in red wrapping paper.

One of the officials, Dai Yuguang, was banned as a result of his handling of a match between Sichuan, the bottom club in the 12-team professional league, and Jilin.

Sichuan won 6-0, after Jilin players at times deliberately passed the ball to opponents in protest against Yuguang's bias. "They lost interest because they knew they couldn't beat the referee," was one comment.

Jilin were playing under a new coach, Zheng Zhongxie, who had had a previous spell with the club and returned in place of Li Hu'en, sacked after his men lost five successive home games. The CFA issued a strong notice criticising Zhongxie and his team, and the club sponsors, South Korea's Hyundai Motor Corporation, are furious, but there is considerable sympathy for Jilin.

They were merely the latest victim in a deplorable state of affairs. Ever since professionalism was instituted 18 months ago, the referees have been the main topic of soccer discussion.

At first the CFA claimed that the officials were making honest mistakes and were merely lacking fitness, but blatant cases of unfair decisions are becoming more and more common.

Under current regulations, the CFA and the host club share all the costs incurred by a match referee and his linesmen, a competition supervisor and a referee supervisor. Members of these groups often stay with their hosts on the night before the match – an arrangement which many feel is an ideal breeding ground for bribery.

Several clubs have asked for results to be annulled, and there were riots in Tianjin when the team lost 1-0 to defending champions Dalian, who were awarded a controversial last-minute penalty.

The municipal authority ordered a CFA vice-president, Liu Jiansheng – who was born in Tianjin – to lead a delegation to his bosses in Beijing, asking for justice. The CFA finally admitted that the ref had made mistakes, but refused to alter the result.

One club, August First, have claimed that their protests caused referees to show even greater bias against them, and fans of Sichuan, said to have been "robbed" in a game with Guangdong, pasted photographs of the referee around the ground, above the words 'Please remember this face'.

Many other supporters have taken less drastic action, but at last there seems to be a concerted move to do something.

The championship has been devalued as a result of all the scandal, but Shanghai deserve praise for their efforts. Nine successive victories left them six points clear with six games to play, and they look certain to take the title for the first time since 1962. They play at a higher speed under coach Xu Genbao, who has rebuilt the team since taking over in 1993.

Shanghai's Fan Zhiyi, a veteran international at 26, seems sure to be named Player of the Year. His 14 goals put him five ahead of the next highest scorers, clubmate Xie Hui and Tianjin's Wang Jun.

ZHENG MING

Leading the way in South Korea . . . Hong Myung-Bo

THE CFA may extend the league from 12 clubs to 14 next season, to prevent Sichuan from being relegated. The region is easily the biggest market for soccer-related items, and relegation – Sichuan are bottom with only three wins out of 16 games – would have a drastic effect on sales.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Shanghai	16	12	2	2	32	11	38
Guangdong	16	10	2	4	29	14	32
Beijing	16	8	4	4	24	14	28
Shandong	16	6	8	2	23	18	26
Dalian	16	7	5	4	15	17	26
Guangzhou	16	4	6	6	17	19	18
Jilin	16	4	6	6	16	22	18
Tianjin	16	5	2	9	13	24	17
August First	16	3	6	7	16	20	15
Liaoning	16	4	3	9	21	35	15
Qingdao	16	3	6	7	13	23	15
Sichuan	16	3	4	9	19	22	13

INDONESIA

Africans move in

FOLLOWING the example of Roger Milla, who abandoned his umpteenth comeback at Tonnere Yaounde to join Pelita Jaya in Indonesia, there has been an African invasion of the South East Asian nation.

Fourteen African footballers are now playing in Indonesia, made up of eight Cameroonians, four Angolans and two Zairians.

The Angolan contingent includes Abel Campos and Vata Garcia, who have both previously played for Benfica. Garcia played in their Champions Cup Final defeat by PSV Eindhoven in 1988 after scoring a controversial semi-final goal against Marseille. Both now play for Gelora Dewata.

Pupuk Kaltim have signed current Cameroonian internationals Jean-Pierre Mbvoum and Justin Imandy.

Emmanuel Kessack Maboang, who scored in the 1994 World Cup finals for Cameroon, is a team-mate of Milla at Pelita Jaya, while Kuyangana Makukula of Zaire has signed for Medan Jaya.

MARK GLEESON

BAHRAIN

EAST RIFFA are favourites to become the first Bahraini winners of the Gulf Club Champions Tournament.

This is only the second time in its 13-year history that the competition has been staged in Bahrain, and the local club, winners of the Mumtaz (Premier) domestic title, have the advantage of playing all their games in their own National Stadium.

The other teams taking part are Sharjah (UAE), Al Nasr (Saudi Arabia), Al Arabi (Qatar), Al Salmiya (Kuwait) and Dhofar (Oman). All six clubs play each other once.

AIDAN PAYNE

BANGLADESH

GOALS by Aslam – the 172nd of his career – and Jahangir to one by Baba gave Abahani KC a 2-1 win over Mohammedan in their vital Bangladesh League clash.

The victory meant that a 1-1 draw against Muktijoddha in the final game was enough for defending champions Abahani to win their 10th title.

They took 43 points from 18 games, losing only one, and finished a point ahead of Mohammedan, with Muktijoddha third on 33.

German coach Otto Pfister, 57, is to lead the Bangladeshi team in the South Asian Federation Games, starting in India on December 20.

ASIAN CLUB CUP

VALENCIA, an unfancied club from the Maldives, caused the first surprise of the Asian Club Cup by beating India's Mohun Bagan on away goals. Mohamed Manku scored an 86th-minute winner in the second leg, after Mohun Bagan had won 2-1 in Calcutta.

The top two teams from the West and East groups will contest the semi-finals later this month, with the winners going into the final.

AFRO-ASIAN CLUB CUP

ESPERANCE of Tunisia were worthy winners of the second of these tournaments, beating the holders, Thai Farmers Bank, 3-0 at home after drawing 1-1 away.

MALAYSIA

PAHANG won the Pro League title by taking 65 points from 28 games and finishing with 11 points to spare over Selangor, but suffered an early shock when losing 1-0 to Sarawak in the Malaysia Cup.

The top 10 teams in the league table are eligible to contest the knock-out, which began with two round-robin groups. Terengganu, Brunei DS and Penang are in one group with Pahang and Sarawak; Selangor, Johor, Kedah, Perak and Perlis contest the other.

SOUTH KOREA

POSCO ATOMS were clear leaders after eight games in the Pro League. Atoms, captained by international Hong Myung-Bo, had taken 20 points, leading Chun-nam Dragons by six and Yukong Elephants by seven.

IRAN

LEADERS Bahman beat Malajan 2-0 in the 14th round of the Iranian League, to maintain their place at the top. Bahman will play Vostok of Kazakhstan in the second round of the Asian Cup-winners Cup.

OMAN

ITALY won the Oman Under-17 international youth tournament, beating Saudi Arabia 2-1.

In the semi-finals, the Italians defeated United Arab Emirates 5-0, and the Saudis beat Kuwait by the only goal.

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

GOALS by Sun Wen and Fan Yunjie gave China a 2-0 victory over Japan and enabled them to win the Asian Women's football championship for the fifth time in a row.

Nine other teams took part in the event, staged in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia.

AZAM MAHMOOD

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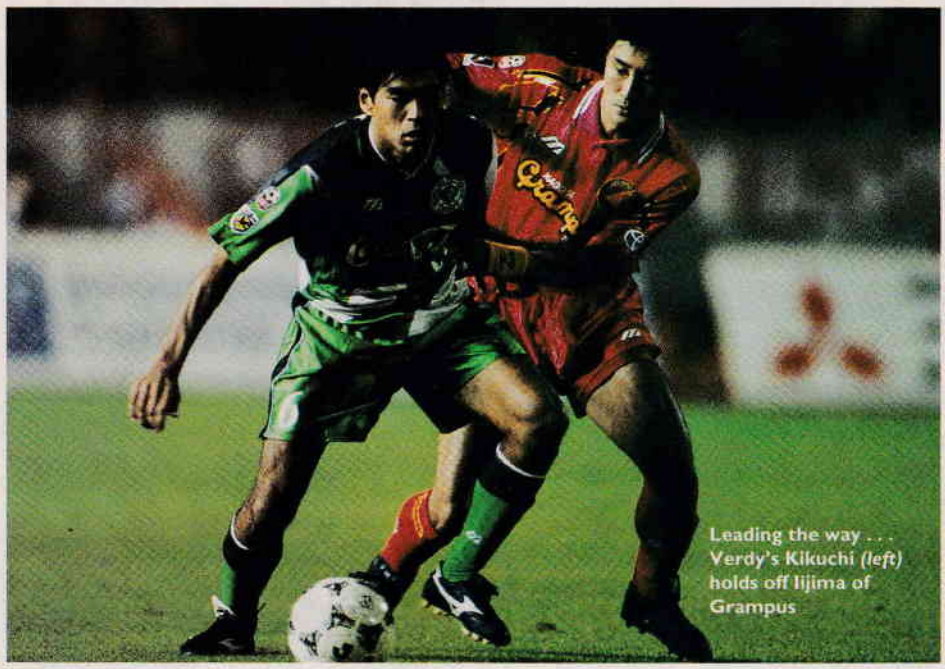


Leading the way . . . Verdy's Kikuchi *(left)* holds off Iijima of Grampus

GROANS could be heard all over Japan as Verdy Kawasaki left the pack behind in the J.League's Nicos Series.

It is not that Verdy aren't the best team in Japan, but that they are. As Yomiuri and now Verdy, the club have won every national league title in the 1990s.

Verdy's slide at the start of this year's Suntory Series raised hopes that their iron grip might be coming to an end. Instead, despite all the 'Stop the Verdy!' cries (the press use English when they get passionate), manager Nelsinho has built the best Verdy team ever. Japanese fans and reporters must reconcile themselves to finding interest not in novelty but in finesse.

In a league where the best and worst players of most teams appear to belong to different leagues, every Verdy player has become the master of his role. The foreigners are almost invisible, just members of the team. The replacements fit in as if they have been in the side all along.

Arsene Wenger, manager of Nagoya Grampus Eight, shook his head after the 1-0 home defeat that put Verdy almost out of reach, and commented that it could take 200 years to catch up. That result ended a run of 11 straight wins for Grampus with Dragan Stojkovic proving that they can still lose with him, even if only just. On the day, Stojkovic was tightly contained by Verdy's Tadashi Nakamura.

Nelsinho has created a well-oiled machine that switches between 4-4-2 and 3-5-2 during the game. "Our ability to use two systems is our strength," says Nelsinho. "We upset our opponents by changing midway through the match. We can do this because our players have the ability."

Verdy's success is founded on the defence, notably centre-backs Pereira and Kentaro Hayashi, with Pereira playing as libero in the three-backs system.

In midfield Tsuyoshi Kitazawa and Toshimi Kikuchi support the offensive triangle of Bismarck, Alcindo and Kazuyoshi Miura. Kikuchi is the younger brother of Verdy and national team keeper Shinkichi Kikuchi, and a member of the Olympic squad.

All is steadied from the rear by national team captain Tetsuji Hashiritani, a defensive midfielder for his club, and still, on occasion, by Ruy Ramos. Verdy have won 14 home League matches on the trot, and 12 of their last 14 away.

It is a remarkable turnaround for 45-year old Nelsinho, whose job was in danger 10 games into the first stage when Verdy were at the foot of the table.

"Verdy is a team that takes time to get its engine started," he said in April. Obviously the return of Kazu has helped, with 16 goals in 17 League games. Kazu also scored a world-class goal direct from a free kick in the Jomo Cup.

The rumour mill keeps churning. Verdy also seem to be talking with Brazilian striker Bebeto about a contract for next year.

The only teams that may still stop them are Shimizu S-Pulse and Nagoya Grampus Eight in the second stage, and Yokohama Marinos in the two-legged J.League Suntory Championship, played between the winners of the first and second stages, which is scheduled for November 30 and December 6.

The results are still coming in for Shimizu. Daniele Massaro had to return to Italy for treatment on a leg, and an ankle injury will keep Brazilian Dias out until the end of the stage. But new signings Marcelo and Marco have done good service in their place, with Marco setting a J.League record with goals in each of his first five matches.

"The team has grown firm," says S-Pulse manager Masakatsu Miyamoto. "The veterans are feeling motivated, and the tactics are in place."

Shimizu only came unstuck in the derby match with Jubilo Iwata, who had Gerald Vanenburg back from injury alongside Dunga and Salvatore Schillatci.

Bellmare Hiratsuka have two new Brazilians. They are 22-year-old striker Emerson, from Vasco da Gama, and 26-year-old Junior, a centre-back from Piracicaba.

Urawa Red Diamonds had a miserable run of seven straight losses after making a promising start to the season, and had key defender Yoshinori Taguchi banned until the end of the stage after a brawl with a fan outside a restaurant.

MIKE PLASTOW & MICHI ISHIJIMA

Fukuoka clinch it

FUKUOKA BLUX stumbled from one defeat to the next at the end of their Japan Football League campaign but clinched J.League status for next year on the night that they lost 3-2 at home to Kyoto Sanga.

Third-placed Tosu Futures can no longer catch them after losing their third penalty shoot-out in four games. Tosu had never lost a shoot-out this season till they fell to Tokyo Gas in early October, but further penalty defeats to Kyoto Sanga and Fukushima have almost put paid to their J.League hopes for 1996. Kyoto need to win one of their last three games to go up.

Strong start in cups

VERDY KAWASAKI made a strong start in their Asian Club Championship campaign with consecutive 3-0 wins away and at home in the first round against Eastern of Hong Kong followed by a 9-1 home crushing of Crescent Textile Mills of Pakistan.

The second leg in Pakistan was cancelled on the pretext of ethnic violence, giving Verdy the nod into the quarter-final group.

Yokohama Flugels likewise began their defence of the Asian Cup-winners Cup with a 3-1 win away to Rangers of Hong Kong, while Emperor's Cup holders Bellmare Hiratsuka won their opening game 2-1 away to Sabah of Malaysia.

Doping crackdown

THE J. LEAGUE introduced doping controls this year to conform with the worldwide trend, though Japan's society is about as free of illegal drugs as humanly possible . . . or so we thought.

There were no problems during the summer, but the cool autumn winds brought a series of head colds that left some clubs doctors red-faced.

The first victim was Bellmare's new Brazilian centre-back Junior, signed from XV de Piracicaba, who had to be pulled from the match with Shimizu because he had been given a cold medicine that contained banned substances.

Kashima Antlers then lost five players for the same reason before the game with Nagoya Gramphus Eight. The club were quick to emphasise that the players were blameless.

Foreign lesson

IT WAS BILLED as the dream match, the J.League's Japanese players against the foreign stars. A crowd of 50,034 watched the Japanese win 3-1, thanks to two goals by Kazuyoshi Miura, the player of the match, and one by Masahiro Fukuda. The foreigners' only consolation was a penalty by Verdy Kawasaki defender Pereira.

The players and managers were chosen by the popular vote of the fans. The result, for the Japanese, was a virtual carbon copy of the national team, led by former national team coach Eijun Kiyokumo, now manager of JEF United Ichihara. The foreigners were led by Kiyokumo's former boss at the national team, Hans Ooft, assisted by Arsene Wenger.

MIKE PLASTOW & MICHI ISHIJIMA

Patriot games

Slowly but surely the new US league is gathering pace. Paul Gardner reports from New York as America braces itself for the long-awaited Major League Soccer

AND then there were 10. Ten team names, 10 logos, 10 kits and, if you don't count too carefully, 10 top-class players.

That's where we are with Major League Soccer, MLS, the new pro league scheduled for an April 6 1996 kick-off. The new names and equipment were unveiled at a New York disco where the press also got a look at the official MLS ball, and the new referees' kits.

The MLS is gathering pace, which is just as well with only five months to go. Under the 'single entity' system, it is the league, not the clubs, which signs the players. A pool of players – it currently numbers 60 – is being built up from which the clubs then select in a pre-determined order.

Except that major stars – they're called marquee players here – may bypass the draft and be assigned to specific clubs because of their drawing power in a certain city. Thus Mexican World Cup goalie Jorge Campos has been assigned to Los Angeles Galaxy, where there's a huge Mexican population.

Another Mexican, the veteran goalscorer Hugo Sanchez, will go to Dallas Burn, where there are many Hispanics. US star Tab Ramos will play for New York/New Jersey MetroStars, in the area where he grew up. And Alexi Lalas will play in Boston, for reasons that nobody seems too clear about. Ditto for Roy Wegerle and Colorado Rapids.

John Harkes will return from England to play for the only club with a traditional name, Washington DC United. And because Washington is the only US city with a sizeable number of Bolivians, United will probably also get another assigned player, Bolivia's Marco Etcheverry, arguably the MLS's biggest signing so far. Other stars include Nigerian internationals Uche Okafor and Michael Emenalo and Moroccan keeper Khalil Azmi.

Things seem to have gone rather quiet on the rule-change front. Asked what changes would be made, Alan Rothenberg said that was still being discussed, but added: "We're not talking about any great changes – we're not interested in being some sort of renegade league."

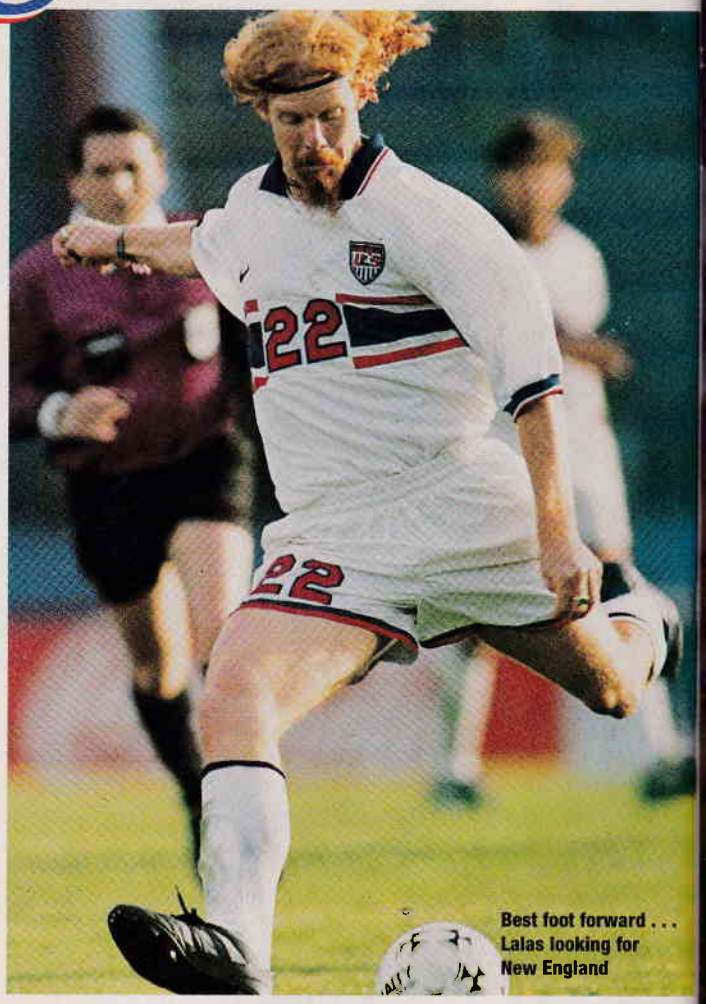
Actually, Rothenberg's role in the league is being diluted. He will not be the $1million-a-year control-everything figure that he wanted to be in the original MLS plans. The MLS is actively seeking someone to take over the day-to-day operation of the league. Rothenberg will remain more as an advisor.

There is also talk that the MLS office will be moved from Los Angeles, probably to New York – a switch that would greatly diminish the involvement of the LA-based Rothenberg. What nobody can accurately answer is what the standard of MLS play is going to be.

Tab Ramos thinks that it will be "something like the Swedish or the Uruguayan leagues, or maybe the J.League". He admits the American players who return from overseas clubs will probably be stepping down a notch or two but points out: "The level overseas is higher . . . but when our players come to MLS clubs, they'll have to accept a much more important role, they'll have more responsibility."

Only one coach has been announced. The Kansas City Wiz (please address your complaints about the team names to the MLS office in Los Angeles) will be coached by Englishman Ron Newman, who coached in the old NASL, and has been a leading coach in indoor soccer for the past 10 years.

Rumours are that former Portuguese star Tony Simoes will take over San Jose Clash. Former Cosmos coach Eddie Firmani and player Carlos Alberto have been mentioned as possibles for New York/New Jersey MetroStars.



Best foot forward . . . Lalas looking for New England

THE TEAMS

Eastern Conference	Western Conf
New England Revolution	Dallas Burn
Columbus Crew	Colorado Rapids
NY/NJ MetroStars	Kansas City Wiz
Tampa Bay Mutiny	Los Angeles Galaxy
Washington DC United	San Jose Clash

THE BIG SIGNINGS

Player	Position	Country	MLS Club
Khalil Azmi	goalkeeper	Morocco	unassigned
Jorge Campos	goalkeeper	Mexico	Los Angeles Galaxy
Tony Meola	goalkeeper	USA	unassigned
Alexi Lalas	defender	USA	New England
Marco Etcheverry	midfield	Bolivia	unassigned
John Harkes	midfield	USA	Washington
Tab Ramos	midfield	USA	New York/New Jersey
Mike Sorber	midfield	USA	Kansas City
Frank Klopas	forward	USA	unassigned
Hugo Sanchez	forward	Mexico	Dallas
Chicho Suarez	forward	Bolivia	unassigned
Roy Wegerle	forward	USA	Colorado

Arena set for Washington

THE most intriguing coaching appointment is likely to come in Washington, where the American Bruce Arena is the favourite to take over.

Arena has been a highly successful coach at the University of Virginia, leading them to the national collegiate championship for the past four years.

His reputation as a maverick with little respect for the United States Soccer Federation's official coaching methods has undoubtedly held his career back.

But things are changing.

The USSF, greatly perturbed by the poor form of the team being prepared for next year's Olympic Games in Atlanta, has fired coach Timo Liekoski – one of its own party-line coaches who has only been in the job a year.

The USSF has replaced him with Arena. Which is great for Arena, and may not be all that bad for Liekoski, who is now being suggested as the coach of Columbus Crew.

MEXICO

Ossie gets the push

OSSIE ARDILES has been sacked by Mexico's most popular team, Guadalajara. Dutchman Leo Beenhakker has been hired in his place, taking his third job this year.

For Newcastle and Tottenham supporters Ardiles' record this season will make familiar reading: nine matches, 10 points and the team languishing at the bottom of the league. The Argentinian was given two matches to prove he could turn things round – but to no avail. Ardiles was sacked a year to the day he was fired by Spurs.

Former Argentinian national team manger Cesar Menotti had been Guadalajara's favourite to take the manager's job. He declined, instead recommending his favourite disciple, Ardiles, to take over a difficult job.

Last year, despite heavy investment in international players such as Ramon Ramirez, Misael Espinoza, Alberto Coyote, Alberto Garcia and Carlos Turrubiates, Guadalajara lost to eventual champions Necaxa in the play-off semi-finals.

After losing 4-0 at home to Leon, Guadalajara lost two more home games, the last being to deadly rivals America. The players, and in particular Ramirez and Espinosa, have not adapted well to the tactical system introduced by Ardiles.

An emergency board meeting decided to wait until after their games against Atletico Morelia, which they lost, and Atlas before deciding Ossie's fate. Beenhakker, who recently left Instanbulspor in Turkey, is now set for a return to Mexico. He was previously manager of FC America for a short time.

Bora Milutinovic's second reign as manager of the national team began with a 2-0 win in Los Angeles over Saudi Arabia for a new-look side. A crowd of more than 40,000 saw second-half goals from Suarez and substitute Javier Lozano after the Saudis had taken the lead in the 22nd minute.

Milutinovic employed a 5-4-1 formation with Ramon Ramirez, Luis Garcia and Luis Hernandez all playing as attacking midfielders. Ramirez, Garcia and defender Claudio Suarez were the only survivors from the side that won the 1993 Gold Cup.

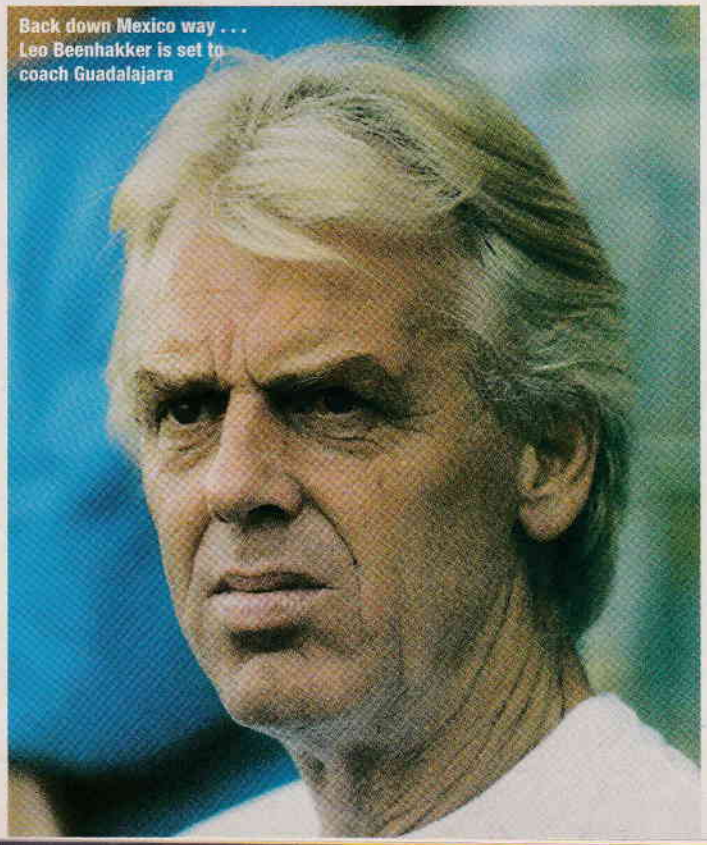
Leon, a modest team managed by former Mexican international Guillermo Mendizabal, lead the table with 18 points. Their veteran Brazilian Tita is top scorer with 13 in nine matches.

Champions Necaxa are having problems replacing Ivo Bassey, now back in Chile. Alberto Usuriaga has returned to Colombia, although Sergio 'Raton' Zarate has chipped in with seven goals. The team have let in on average two goals a game with national team No 2 goalkeeper Nicolas Navarro committing several mistakes in their last three matches.

Cruz Azul and America, as usual, are playing excellent soccer, but the surprise team has been Atlas, who have come of age after three years of patient development with players from their youth school.

Four managers have been sacked after nine matches. After Antonio Carbajal's departure from Atletico Morelia, his replacement Carlos Miloc lasted just one match, as did former international and America player Alfredo Tena with Puebla. Uruguayan Anibal Ruiz was fired by Veracruz. The next to go could be Monterrey's Arturo Salah.

CARLOS RAMIREZ



Back down Mexico way . . . Leo Beenhakker is set to coach Guadalajara

IN BRIEF

HONDURAS

DESPITE losing local derbies on the same weekend, Motagua and Marathon still head the championship race with eight points apiece.

Motagua fell to rivals Olimpia, 2-1, before nearly 18,000 fans at Tegucigalpa's National Stadium, while a crowd of 15,000 at San Pedro Sula's Francisco Morazan Stadium watched Real Espana up-end Marathon, 2-1.

In a preparation match for the upcoming UNCAF Nations Cup - the Central American qualifying tournament for the 1996 CONCACAF Gold Cup - the national team suffered a surprising 1-0 away defeat to Jamaica in Kingston.

GUATEMALA

COMUNICACIONES are showing no signs of letting up. They remain top of the league table after some solid performances including a 3-0 win over Mictlan. After starting slowly, Municipal have moved into second place. Early front-runners Amatitlan and Aurora have fallen off the pace.

EL SALVADOR

IT WOULD be an understatement to say that FAS have dominated the opposition. The defending champions have been demolishing anything that stands in their way. They have opened the season with six consecutive wins, while scoring 19 goals and letting in only two.

Second-placed Aguila, after losing 1-0 to the leaders, have already fallen eight points off the pace.

Argentinian Omar Pastoriza has signed to coach the national team. His immediate goal is to capture one of the top three spots in the UNCAF Nations Cup – which El Salvador is hosting – so that they can advance to the CONCACAF Gold Cup. The Salvadoreans have never qualified for the CONCACAF nations championship.

COSTA RICA

SAPRISSA and Alajuela are unbeaten to date, the former holding a three-point advantage over their main rivals, having played one more match.

Their rivalry will continue into the finals of the 1995 CONCACAF Champions Cup, to be played in Costa Rica from December 13-17. The two Costa Rican sides have qualified, along with Guatemala's Municipal and an undetermined Caribbean representative. Cartagines, also of Costa Rica, won last year's CONCACAF club championship in San Jose, California.

Like Honduras, the national team stumbled to an away defeat against Jamaica, 2-0. The result left some wondering if a place at the CONCACAF Gold Cup remains likely having once enjoyed a strong position.

SCOTT GLEBA

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Denmark's Michael Laudrup is one of Europe's most gifted soccer players. In 1988 Laudrup joined a Barcelona team coached by Johan Cruyff, and he played a major role in breaking Real Madrid's grip on *La Liga*

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AUSTRALIA

I'm no thief!

Australian international Dominic Longo is fighting to clear his name after being falsely accused of theft

ONE of Australia's most successful footballers of recent times is trying to rebuild his career after being falsely accused of stealing money from his club.

The player concerned is 25-year-old Dominic Longo, who had been playing in Belgium with Cercle Brugge after captaining his country at Under-16 and Under-20 levels and being vice-captain in the 1992 Barcelona Olympics.

The first Longo knew of the alleged offence was when his father phoned him from his home in Hobart, capital of Australia's island state, Tasmania.

Longo senior said that newspapers and TV stations had reported that Cercle had sacked their Aussie, because he had stolen an unspecified amount. Longo promptly returned to Australia, vowing to find the origins of the report, sent out by an international news agency, and saying that it threatened to destroy his career as well as upsetting his wife – he married earlier this year – family and friends.

Longo produced a letter from Cercle Brugge president Paul Ducheyne proving that he had left the club with his reputation intact, and wishing him well for the future – not the sort of letter the club president would write if Longo had been guilty of a crime.

Club director Filips Dhont, who had been quoted in the damaging news reports, denied saying anything about stealing. So the mystery remains.

Battling on . . . Longo (left) on national duty against Ghana

Longo put his departure from the club down to internal politics. He claimed that, after having a marvellous first season with Cercle, in 1992-93, during which he kept Jerko Tipuric out of the side, he had been victimised after Tipuric was appointed coach the following season.

Tipuric signed three Romanians, Dorinel Munteanu, Tibor Selymes and Ovidu Hanganu. This made Longo the club's fourth foreigner and, because only three are permitted in Belgian League matches, one had to be omitted from the team.

Longo claims that the Romanians – Munteanu and Selymes played in all Romania's matches at last year's World Cup – stuck together, and if any one of the trio was left out of the team, turmoil erupted.

Longo went on trial to Coventry City earlier this year but was then recalled by Cercle before a deal could be negotiated. He was extremely disappointed at the club's attitude, and although he was paid first-team wages he was told to keep quiet and accept things as they were. Apparently the club did not want him, yet denied him the chance to go elsewhere.

Eventually, after discussions with president Ducheyne, Longo was allowed to return to Australia to "sort things out". He is still a Cercle Brugge player, however, and any club wanting to sign him would need to pay a transfer fee. Cercle bought Longo from Newcastle Breakers for £160,000. Australian A League club Marconi have shown interest in Longo, who is training alone on the beaches and parklands of Sydney.

He would like to return to Europe and try his luck again, and is now trying to gain an Italian passport – his father and grandparents were born in Italy.

There has never been any doubt about Longo's integrity. Australian assistant coach Les Scheinflug, for one, refused to believe the reports, because the player who had captained his Joeys and Young Socceroos was always of impeccable character.

If there is a lesson in all this for Australia's emerging stars who are keen to try their luck overseas, it is that the life of a professional soccer player is not all roses. If you cannot command a regular first-team spot – and it may not always be your fault – life can be very difficult.

And, until the rules change, a young player can find himself tied to a club with little chance of breaking away and making it elsewhere.

WALTER PLESS

AUSTRALIA

THE 1995-96 edition of the national league, now dubbed the A League, is under way with its membership confined to the Australian Soccer Federation's preferred 12 clubs, despite a rearguard action by the expelled Heidelberg United and Brunswick United Juventus clubs.

The two Melbourne based outfits took the ASF to court after being relegated from the League, and forced Australian soccer's administrative body into changing its constitution.

Though reduced in size from 14 to 12 clubs, all teams now play each other three times a season. A £750,000 per year sponsorship deal with communications company Ericsson and increased television coverage gave the League an encouraging start.

The success of the new-look competition is high on the "wish list" proclaimed by ASF spokesman George Negus. Other ambitions include Australia adopting full-time professionalism in the near future and hosting the 2010 World Cup.

NEW ZEALAND

THE 10 clubs who will feature in the revamped national league when it kicks off in January have been decided.

Seven of the eight sides involved in the Superclub Championship's final stages are included. The exception is Roslyn Wakari, who withdrew because of financial problems.

The biggest surprise is Central's involvement at the expense of Auckland United, a club recently formed by the amalgamation of Ellerslie and Mount Wellington – both of whom have performed better than Central this season.

Mount Maunganui's participation is also contentious. The club only finished eighth in their section at the end of the Superclub Championship's regional round and owe a great deal to being situated in a holiday resort.

The 10 participating clubs will be: North Shore United, Waitakere City, Central, Mount Maunganui, Waikato United, Napier City Rovers, Miramar Rangers, Wellington United, Nelson United, Woolston Working Men's Club.

SOLOMON ISLANDS

THE Malaita Cup, the Solomon Islands' second most important regional tournament, has been won by East Fataleka. They defeated East Kwaio 2-1 in the final, with two goals from the competition's top scorer, Denis Iro.

PAUL MOON

FOOTBALL COACHES & TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Going global

Global game . . . Frank Klopas of the US evades the Benfica defence

AFCAT has now reached another milestone in its membership with 40 different countries represented following recent applications from Greece and Turkey.

These giant steps forward give us the opportunity to have an impact on developments around the world and provide members with the unprecedented opportunity to study different aspects of football coaching from all corners of the globe.

Bob Robinson, president of the National Soccer Coaches Association of America, who with Jim Sheldon attended our own convention in June, stated in a recent issue of their own *Soccer Journal* that he had the unparalled chance to "talk soccer" with enthusiastic coaches from around the world. AFCAT can guarantee it works both ways.

Let's look at America for example. We have learned first-hand about the tremendous depth of grassroots work and support within this vast country and despite the lack of media attention to the sport, we know that from a very early age to their college days, the youth of America is in very good hands.

With membership growing rapidly in North America, we intend as part of this year's programme to schedule coaching sessions during May next year. In conjunction with the NSCAA, these will encourage the further closer working relationships between our two associations.

An International Coaches Exchange Programme was established in 1989 between the NSCAA and the Danish Trainers Union, and in addition the Americans make regular highly successful trips to the KNVB (the Dutch Football Federation) and we have intimated our interest in joining these programmes.

The prime objective is to give young, and sometimes not so young, ambitious amateur and youth soccer coaches the opportunity to develop their skills and participate at other suitable international locations.

This will usually last between two to four weeks and will contain training sessions, games, meeting with local coaches etc., giving the guest coach the opportunity to exchange ideas and experience.

In addition, we have been approached to consider providing coaches who have a desire to spend part of their year working abroad. It is hard work, but the rewards in terms of experience and coaching ideas are well worth the effort.

Obviously all these opportunities are arising because of our global developments and are open only to AFCAT members who have at least three years' experience in coaching. Anyone who is interested in becoming involved in either of these programmes should write to the AFCAT office for an application form, so that the necessary preparatory work and interviews can be scheduled in the near future.

Keep up the good work.

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Diary

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

ACTION: Eric Cantona makes a peaceful comeback for Manchester United, converting their equalising penalty in a 2-2 draw against Liverpool . . . Bayern Munich's 100 per cent run in Germany comes to an end as they lose 3-1 to champions Dortmund . . . leaders Milan suffer a surprise 1-0 defeat by Bari in Italy.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 2

GERMANY: Jurgen Klinsmann is released from hospital after observation following a collision with Dortmund keeper Stefan Klos on Sunday.
HOLLAND: Feyenoord, beaten 3-0 by PSV on Sunday, dismiss coach Wim Van Hanegem.
SWITZERLAND: FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter takes the 'Vision' fight into UEFA's corner by proposing the creation of a 16-strong World Club Cup – to be planned once the 1998 World Cup finals have been completed. FIFA also forecasts a record entry of 150-plus nations for the World Cup qualifiers.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3

ACTION: A South American Supercup quarter-final in which Flamengo are beating Velez Sarsfield 3-0 (a 6-2 aggregate win) ends in a pitch battle between players, reserves and coaches after a fight between Brazilian striker Edmundo and Velez defender Zandona.
CHINA: Nearly 200 companies and state organisations in the southwest province of Yunnan set up China's first publicly-owned club, Yunnan Tianyuan Soccer Club. It will compete in the second division of the new professional league in 1996.
ENGLAND: Irish midfielder Andy Townsend is handed a double punishment by the FA. The Aston Villa skipper is suspended for one match after his sending-off in a League game with Nottingham Forest and is fined for his exaggerated celebrations after scoring his side's goal in the 1-1 draw.
GERMANY: Werder Bremen lose 3-2 in the German Cup to Second Division Nurnberg after going 2-0 up in 20 minutes.
HOLLAND: The KNVB and anti-racism groups urge UEFA to stamp out racist behaviour by fans after Ferencvaros followers waved Nazi banners and intimidated Ajax Amsterdam's black players in last week's Champions League game in Budapest.
ROMANIA: The federation threatens demanding UEFA action after Barcelona refuse to release Gheorghe Hagi and Gica Popescu for international duty until after Saturday's League game against Betis.
SCOTLAND: Paul Gascoigne is ruled out of England's friendly in Norway and possibly Rangers' next Champions League tie against Juventus after being injured in a 2-1 Premier Division victory over Motherwell.
UNITED STATES: A Miami meeting of CONCACAF reorganises the regional qualifying proposals for the next World Cup so that Honduras, Costa Rica and El Salvador are placed on an equal competitive footing with the United States, Mexico and Canada.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4

ACTION: Finland and Turkey draw 0-0 in a Helsinki friendly . . . Independiente beat Santos 3-2 on penalties after a 2-2 draw in the South American Supercup quarter-finals.
BRAZIL: Bryan Robson, manager of Middlesbrough, turns up in Brazil with a formal offer to Sao Paulo for Juninho.
GERMANY: Midfielder Mario Basler is ruled out of Germany's next two European qualifiers with Moldova and Wales because of a long-standing groin injury . . . former national hero Uwe Seeler takes over as new president of Hamburg . . . Heiko Herrlich strikes 19 minutes into extra time to lift Borussia Dortmund to a 1-0 win at Freiburg and earn a place in the quarter-finals of the Cup.
HOLLAND: Ajax make it eight wins in eight League matches, all without conceding a goal, when they beat Vitesse Arnhem 3-0.
ITALY: Napoli coach Vujadin Boskov criticises Italy boss Arrigo Sacchi for ignoring his players.
PORTUGAL: Goals from Pedro Barbosa and Nigeria's Emmanuel Amunike give Sporting a 2-0 victory over Benfica in the Lisbon derby.
SPAIN: Real Madrid lose 4-3 at Valencia – their third defeat in the six League games – while Jose Mari Bakero scores a first-half hat-trick as Barcelona win 4-1 over Oviedo.
SWEDEN: National manager Tommy Svensson announces plans to revive Sweden's B-team for the first time in 20 years.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5

ACTION: Croatia and Italy draw 2-2 in a European under-21 qualifier.
BRAZIL: Arsenal step up the bidding against Middlesbrough for Sao Paulo's Juninho.
ENGLAND: Short-list candidates for the post of new technical director to the FA include Switzerland's national coach Roy Hodgson, Terry Venables (England), Howard Wilkinson (Leeds), Gerard Houllier (ex-France) and Andy Roxburgh (UEFA's coaching supremo) . . . champions Blackburn buy Norway midfielder Lars Bohinen from Nottingham Forest, capitalising on a clause in his contract setting the fee at a mere £750,000 . . . Slobodan Dubajic, the 'extra' foreigner when Stuttgart played Leeds in the Champions Cup, starts a trial with Sheffield Wednesday.
GERMANY: Hamburg sack coach Benno Mohlmann on Uwe Seeler's first full day as president. Felix Magath, former international midfielder, becomes caretaker . . . Dortmund's Matthias Sammer becomes the first former East German to be named German Player of the Year. Sammer wins the Kicker poll ahead of Jurgen Klinsmann and Mario Basler.
ITALY: Tomas Brolin of Parma refuses to comment on British press reports saying he will be transferring to Chelsea.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6

ACTION: The Czech Republic beat Belarus 3-0 in a European under-21 qualifier.
ARGENTINA: Boca Juniors sell all 12,000 cheap tickets for their League match against Colon within two hours and are guaranteed a 62,000 capacity for Diego Maradona's return.
REPUBLIC OF IRELAND: Tony Cascarino and Eddie McGoldrick follow Roy Keane and Denis Irwin by pulling out of the Republic of Ireland's squad against Latvia.
SWITZERLAND: Two Lokomotiv Sofia players are banned for two years by UEFA for attacking a referee during a Cup-winners' Cup tie. A further three Lokomotiv players received two-match bans for insulting the referee. The club was fined £13,000. UEFA also fined Ferencvaros £40,000 for racist gestures and other acts of misconduct by their fans during a Champions League tie against Grasshopper Zurich. However the Swiss federation is merely reprimanded after players unfurled a banner protesting against French nuclear tests before a European qualifier against Sweden.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7

ACTION: In the Euro '96 qualifiers, Belgium beat Armenia 2-0, the Czech Republic virtually assure a top-two place by defeating Belarus 2-0 and Bulgaria beat Albania 3-0 . . . in the European under-21s, Germany beat Moldova 3-1 and Belgium beat Armenia 3-0.
ARGENTINA: A last-minute Dario Scotto goal brings Boca Juniors a 1-0 League win over Colon and Diego Maradona a winning return in his first competitive match since returning from a 15-month drug ban.
ENGLAND: Middlesbrough steal a march on the rest of Europe by completing the £4.75 million signing of Brazil midfielder Juninho from Sao Paulo . . . England coach Terry Venables says he has rejected approaches from Internazionale.
FRANCE: Injured Reynald Pedros and David Ginola pull out of France's squad for the crucial European championship qualifier in Romania. Coach Aime Jacquet calls up Metz striker Cyrille Pouget.
HOLLAND: Arie Haan, currently boss of PAOK Salonika, is appointed to succeed Wim Van Hanegem at Feyenoord.
ITALY: Milan are reported as having offered Werder Bremen £7million for controversial and outspoken midfielder Mario Basler.
SPAIN: Barcelona, despite missing injured Cuellar, Jordi Cruyff, Kodro and Prosinecki as well as Hagi and Popescu, on international duty, win 5-1 away to Betis.
SWEDEN: International defender Roger Ljung retires at 29 to become a players' agent.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

ACTION: Croatia are held 1-1 in Split by Italy but Germany thrash Moldova 6-1 despite a penalty miss by skipper Jurgen Klinsmann . . . the US hit back from 3-0 down in 28 minutes to beat Saudi Arabia 4-3 in Washington.
SPAIN: Real Madrid finally win at home at the fourth attempt, defeating fourth-placed Compostela 2-1 with goals from midfielder Fernando Hierro equalising after 26 minutes and Chilean striker Ivan Zamorano.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9

GERMANY: Werder Bremen general manager Willi Lemke says they may be ready to sell midfielder Mario Basler to Parma – but only for a German record £10million.
SPAIN: Pedro Mari Zabalza becomes the first managerial casualty of the Spanish season as he is dismissed by bottom club Rayo Vallecano after a 4-1 home defeat by Salamanca. Assistant Francisco Baena takes charge.
SWITZERLAND: FIFA sets up a study group to discuss the 'Vision' proposals brought forward by UEFA. The working party will report back in Zurich on November 20. General secretary Sepp Blatter denies reports of a further tightening up on backpassing to goalkeepers. He says: "There will be no rule changes before the 1998 World Cup finals."

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10

ACTION: A string of European under-21 ties include a 5-1 win for Denmark against Spain . . . Sweden lose 2-1 at home to Scotland in a B international . . . Norway and England draw 2-2 in a friendly under-21 match . . . Japanese Club Bellmare defeat Sabah of Kuala Lumpur 2-1 in an Asian Cup-winners Cup second round first leg tie . . . Kazu Miura scores twice as a Japan XI beat an Imports Select 3-1 in the annual challenge.
ARGENTINA: Boca coach Silvio Marzolini says the AFA may have to hire English referees to control matches featuring Diego Maradon.
BRAZIL: Flamengo's 2-0 defeat by Cruzeiro prompts a 'graffitti attack' on the club's offices, demanding: "No more disgrace!" and "Edmundo and Romario – Out!"
ENGLAND: Blackburn's new midfielder Lars Bohinen admits that he did receive advice from controversial agent Rune Hauge in his transfer from Nottingham Forest . . . Uwe Rosler signs a new contract which will keep him at Manchester City until 1998.
GERMANY: Bayern Munich president Franz Beckenbauer criticises the level of international mediocrity imposed by the fixture-heavy European Championship qualifying system . . . Werder Bremen say no firm offers have yet been received for Mario Basler.
SCOTLAND: Barry Lavety, St Mirren's Scotland Under-21 striker, fails a random drugs test but will escape SFA punishment because the drug was 'social' and not performance-enhancing.
SPAIN: Espanyol's table-topping bid is threatened by confirmation that Romanian striker Florin Raducioiu will be out for at least a month after he dislocated a shoulder in Sunday's game against Gijon.
SWITZERLAND: National coach Roy Hodgson is reported to be poised to accept an offer to coach Internazionale – after Wednesday's European qualifying tie against Hungary . . . UEFA bans Bolton striker Alan Thompson for four matches after his expulsion in a European under-21 tie against Portugal . . . the Welsh FA is fined £5,700 after a spectator ran on to the pitch in Cardiff at the Euro '96 qualifier against Moldova and Everton must pay £2,860 after a similar incident at the Cup-winners' clash with KR Reykjavik at Goodison.
TURKEY: Galatasaray agree to pay Torino £2million for homesick striker Hakan Sukur.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

ACTION: On a full night of European Championship drama Russia and Spain secure top places in their groups and thus places in the finals . . . England draw 0-0 in Norway but police report a victory as far as the hooligan threat is concerned.
ARGENTINA: Diego Maradona says he hopes to see Cuban President Fidel Castro a week later at the Fifth Ibero-American summit in the southern resort city of Bariloche.
ENGLAND: Bruce Grobbelaar, John Fashanu and Hans Segers, and Malaysian businessman Heng Suan Lim, appear in court in Southampton and are further remanded on match-fixing charges. Charges have been dropped against Fashanu's wife, Melissa Kassa-Mapsi . . . First Division Derby pay £1.57million to buy Croat defender Igor Stimack from Hadjuk Split.
GERMANY: Swiss midfielder Alain Sutter is sold by Bayern Munich to Freiburg for £1.4million.
SCOTLAND: Everton and Scotland striker Duncan Ferguson loses an appeal against a three-month jail sentence for butting Raith Rovers' John McStay while playing for Rangers in a Scottish Premier Division match in April 1994. Ferguson thus becomes the first international in Britain to be jailed for an on-field assault on another player.
SWEDEN: A player with Second Division Brommapojkarna is suspended after testing positive for amphetamine, a stimulant. The player, whose identity is not revealed, claims his drink was spiked at a restaurant.

Diary

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

GERMANY: Lothar Matthaus denies reports that he is considering enforced retirement because of injury . . . Gertrud Gebhard is named to become the first female official to oversee a Bundesliga game when she is appointed to be lineswoman at the match between Schalke and Kaiserslautern . . . Werder Bremen midfielder Mario Basler says he has made up his mind which Italian club he wants to join but remains concerned that the £10million asking price may prove too high.
GREECE: PAOK Salonika say they will demand compensation of £225,000 from former Dutch international Arie Haan if he breaks his contract to become coach of Feyenoord.
REPUBLIC OF IRELAND: Niall Quinn and Paul McGrath are cleared by UEFA to play in next month's decisive European qualifier against Portugal after being told that the cautions they had collected against Latvia were their second each in the group.
SPAIN: A blow for leaders Atletico Madrid as Jose Perez Caminero is ruled out for up to a month after tearing a muscle in his left leg during Spain's 1-1 draw in Denmark.
UNITED STATES: The draw for the CONCACAF Gold Cup next January sets title-holders Mexico against St Vincent while guests Brazil begin against Canada the following night.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

ACTION: Iraq beat Qatar 3-2 in an Olympic qualifier.
ENGLAND: Middlesbrough promise a 50-piece samba band to welcome Juninho on his arrival after completing a £4.75m transfer from Sao Paulo . . . champions Blackburn sign Scotland international Billy McKinlay from Dundee United for £1.75m following their capture of Norwegian Lars Bohinen (£750,000) . . . Chelsea pay Sheffield Wednesday £2.3million for Romania full-back Dan Petrescu . . . US international John Harkes of Derby is to return to home at the season's end to the US federation for £500,000 . . . Bolton sign Yugoslav international midfielder Sasa Curcic from Partizan Belgrade.
HOLLAND: Ajax midfielder Marcio Santos is ruled out with an achilles injury.
SCOTLAND: Rangers defender Alan McLaren's four-match ban for his dismissal against Steaua Bucharest is cut to three on appeal .
SWITZERLAND: The Swiss federation gives national coach Roy Hodgson the all-clear to join Internazionale . . . FIFA's World Cup committee gives conditional approval to all five regional confederations' qualifying procedures for the 1998 World Cup, including South America's single league format involving all nine entrants. General secretary Sepp Blatter forecasts a record entry with 169 confirmations already submitted.
TURKEY: Turkish striker Hakan Sukur ends his brief spell in Italy when he signs a three-year contract to play for his former club, Galatasaray.
UNITED STATES: A teenage player in Miami is awarded £180,000 for injures sustained after a rival team's coach urged his own players to "waste him".

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

ACTION: Orlando Pirates of South Africa beat Express of Uganda 1-0 in the African Champions Cup semi-final first legs. In the other semi-final Ismailia of Egypt defeat ASEC of Abidjan 1-0 . . . in England Newcastle United beat Queens Park Rangers 3-2 to stay four points clear at the top of the Premier League . . . Metz keep up their surprise run in France, beating Bordeaux 2-0 to stay top . . . German leaders Bayern Munich lose 2-1 at home to Borussia Monchengladbach – their first home defeat of the season.
ITALY: Disciplinary judge Alberto Fumagalli, overruled twice on appeal after imposing one-match bans for players feigning injury, quits his post after four years, saying he can no longer work with the federation.
ENGLAND: England coach Terry Venables rules himself out of the running for consideration to become the FA's technical director.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

ACTION: Flamengo make a winning start to the second round of the Brazilian championship when they beat Criciuma 1-0 with a Romario penalty . . . Ajax, inspired by goals from Jari Litmanen and Marc Overmars, score their ninth consecutive win in the Dutch League, beating Twente Enschede 3-0 . . . Milan, even without injured Roberto Baggio, beat Juventus 2-1 . . . Legia Warsaw hit seven goals away to Siarka Tarnobrzeg.
BRAZIL: Provincial referee Luiz Vila Nova is placed under investigation by the CBD over an incident in which he sent off Semilde, a midfielder with Urubuetama in the Ceara state championship match against Ferroviario. Vila Nova became incensed by something the player said and punched him on his chin.
ENGLAND: The FA says it intends to inquire into suggestions that unlicensed agents may have been involved in Middlesbrough's signing of Juninho. The club deny any wrongdoing.
SPAIN: Sevilla dismiss Portuguese coach Toni Oliveira after Saturday's 3-0 defeat at home to third-placed Espanyol leaves them with one win in eight games. Nursery team boss Juan Carlos Alvarez takes over.
SWITZERLAND: Servette sack trainer Bernard Challandes, appointing Umberto Barberis (ex-Sion) in his place, after a 3-1 defeat by Sion.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16

ENGLAND: Juninho arrives in England from Sao Paulo, saying: "I am coming to Britain to help Middlesbrough conquer the English league championship and qualify for the European Cup. They have a coach who really understands football. My objective is to help transform Middlesbrough into a club which has the importance of a Manchester" . . . Carlsberg sign a new three-year shirt sponsorship deal with Liverpool worth £3million.
FRANCE: Bernard Tapie is admitted to hospital a week before the start of his appeal against a jail sentence for match-fixing.
ITALY: Roy Hodgson, Inter's new coach, says he belongs "95 per cent" to the club, "but five per cent to the Swiss national team." The Swiss federation may yet take up the right to retain him as consultant for the European Championship.
JAPAN: Kashima Antlers revealed they barred five of their own players from Saturday's 3-1 defeat by Grampus Eight after learning they had taken a cold medicine containing banned stimulants including ephedrine.
PORTUGAL: Bobby Robson returns to work as Porto coach six weeks after undergoing surgery for a nasal cancer.
SCOTLAND: Falkirk defender Steve Kirk is fined £250 for "culpably and recklessly" kicking a ball into the crowd and injuring Dawn Wilson, aged 12, during a Premier Division game against Hearts last April.
SOUTH AFRICA: Rabali defender Ahmed Gora Ebrahim is given a one-year ban with six months suspended after landing a kung-fu kick on his own coach, Austrian-born coach Walter Rautmann, after being substituted in a First Division match against Umtata Bucks.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

ACTION: PSV Eindhoven win a UEFA Cup second thriller 5-3 away to Leeds.
BRAZIL: Sao Paulo, having just sold Juninho to Middlesbrough, open talks with Italy's Internazionale over the projected transfer of 20-year-old striker Caio.
ENGLAND: Leeds manager Howard Wilkinson tells the FA he is not interested in being considered for the post of technical director . . . Middlesbrough are cleared by the FA of any irregularities concerning the possible use of unregistered agents in the Juninho transfer.
ITALY: Magistrate Maurizio Laudi, previously involved in the Red Brigade urban guerrilla trials, is appointed to succeed Alberto Fumagalli as a new sports judge.
SWITZERLAND: World champions Brazil remain top of the FIFA world rankings.
UNITED STATES: Major League Soccer announces the names, graphic designs and colours of the 10 teams which will start competition next April 6.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

ACTION: In the UEFA Champions League Juventus hit four past Rangers and Real Madrid six – including a hat-trick for Raul – against Ferencvaros. Bobby Robson returns to duty with Porto but sees his men beaten 1-0 at home by Panathinaikos . . . Olimpia of Paraguay beat Sao Paulo 3-0 in the South American Supercup . . . Kaiserslautern crash 3-1 at home to Betis in the UEFA Cup.
ARGENTINA: Diego Maradona says he has accepted an offer from Oxford University to give a lecture on November 6.
GERMANY: Former German captain Lothar Matthaus says he is determined to return to action after a 10-month injury lay-off. Matthaus, record-holder of 122 German caps, says: "I am looking for a new challenge. I do not fear any opposition and I don't have to hide behind anyone. I am convinced I can regain my form for both Bayern Munich and the national team."
MOZAMBIQUE: Mozambique dismiss their Ukraine-born national team coach, Victor Bondarenko, just three months before the African Nations Cup finals. His replacement is Portuguese coach Rui Cacador.
NIGERIA: New Dutch manager Jo Bonfrere says he wants a win to help restore the African champions' image against Uzbekistan on Saturday in Tashkent in the first leg of the biennial Afro-Asian Cup. Squad: Rufai, Agu, Shorounmu, Eguavoen, Okafor, Nwanu, Babayaro, Okechukwu, Oliseh, Okocha, Amunike, Siasia, Babangida, Amokachi, West, Oruma, Nwankwo, Adepoju, Ipaye, Ojigwe.
SPAIN: Carlos Aimar becomes the third manager in eight days to lose his job when he is sacked as coach by next-to-bottom Celta Vigo. His replacement is Fernando Castro Santos.
TURKEY: Former Holland, Real Madrid and Ajax manager Leo Beenhakker resigns as coach of bottom of the table Istanbulspor.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19

ACTION: UEFA Cup holders Parma suffer a shock 3-0 defeat away to Halmstad in Swe[illegible] in the Cup-winners' Cup. Holders Zarag[illegible] beat Brugge 2-1 but have Nayim, their ma[illegible] winning hero from last season's final, sent [illegible] . . . Premiership clubs approve a propo[illegible] allowing them to name five substitutes [illegible] match next season . . . England coach Te[illegible] Venables warns that England's position as [illegible] power in world football will continue to s[illegible] unless money is ploughed into the game [illegible] grassroots level.
FRANCE: Struggling Cannes sack traine[illegible] William Ayache after just 19 days in charge [illegible] Club president Francis Borelli says Ayache, wh[illegible] took over from Safet Susic, had made contrac[illegible] tual demands which were unacceptable. Youth [illegible] centre coach Guy Lacombe takes over.
GERMANY: Jurgen Klinsmann says his [illegible] Bayern Munich team-mates must resist "[illegible] German inclination towards individualism" [illegible] they want to become a European power again [illegible] "Individuals," he adds, "are not that important [illegible] if we want to be like Milan and Barcelona [illegible] Internationals, who dominate in their own [illegible] country, must understand when they find [illegible] themselves on the bench."

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20

FRANCE: Anderlecht's former Dutch international John Bosman is to join Martigues on a one-year contract.
TURKEY: Ex-England international Barry Venison is released by Galatasaray after having problems adapting to the way of life.
UNITED STATES: Alexi Lalas is named the US federation's Male Athlete of the Year.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

ACTION: Les Ferdinand scores a hat-trick as Newcastle stay top of the English Premier League with a 6-1 win over Wimbledon . . . French leaders Metz extend their unbeaten run to 14 matches with a disappointing 0-0 draw away to lowly Lille . . . Hamburg win 3-0 away to bottom-of-the-table Freiburg to record their first win of the season in Germany . . . PSV Eindhoven step up the pressure on Dutch leaders Ajax with a 7-1 demolition of Groningen . . . Spartak Vladikavkaz clinch their first Russian championship with a 2-1 win against CSKA Moscow.
BRAZIL: The Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture says it will put an official government stamp on beans and rice being sent to Juninho in England to circumvent food import controls.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

ACTION: Romario scores twice in the Brazilian championship but Flamengo are held 2-2 by Bahia . . . Paris SG narrow the gap on French league leaders Metz to four points with their best performance in weeks as they beat Auxerre 3-1 at the Parc des Princes . . . Stefan Effenberg scores his fourth goal in three games to give Borussia MG a 1-0 home win over Werder Bremen in Germany . . . Ajax concede their first domestic goals of the season then hit back from 2-0 down to win 4-2 away to Feyenoord . . . promoted Vicenza hold Italian League leaders Milan 1-1 and allow Juventus and Napoli to move to within two points . . . Johan Cruyff is sent off from the bench for the fourth time in his Barcelona coaching career after only 10 minutes of a 1-0 win over Valencia.
BRAZIL: Sports Minister Pele, on the eve of his 55th birthday, says marriage is the key to staying in good shape.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23

BULGARIA: Goalkeeper Borislav Mikhailov is ruled out of Bulgaria's final Euro qualifier against Germany on November 15 after tearing a thigh muscle while training with his English First Division club Reading.
ENGLAND: West Ham sign US international John Harkes from Derby on loan to the end of the season.
HOLLAND: Charter airline Martinair Holland says it will no longer transport Feyenoord supporters after fans caused £5,000 damage to a flight returning from the European Cup-winners' Cup tie against Everton.
NIGERIA: A FIFA delegation, headed by Joao Havelange, is to visit Nigeria to explain the cancellation of the World Youth Cup earlier this year, says sports minister Jim Nwobodo.
TURKEY: Galatasaray sell Barry Venison to Southampton for £800,000.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24

ACTION: Japan beat Saudi Arabia 2-1 in Tokyo.
BRAZIL: Flamengo say they have had five inquiries for Edmundo – one from England, one from Spain and three from Italy – but have no intention of selling him until at least the end of the national championship in December.
ENGLAND: Sheffield Wednesday seal a £4million joint transfer deal with Red Star Belgrade for striker Darko Kovacevic and defender Dejan Stefanovic.
FINLAND: The Finnish federation offer their national coaching post to outgoing Denmark boss Richard Moller-Nielsen.
FRANCE: Bernard Tapie admits, on the opening day of his appeal against a one-year jail sentence for match-fixing, that he had lied when he said previously that he had not met the then Valenciennes coach, Boro Primorac, in June, 1993 . . . in a separate development connected with the Marseille scandal, Croatia national coach Miroslav Blazevic is arrested on charges alleging he received money through a slush fund account in Zurich.
HOLLAND: A Rotterdam court rules that coach Arie Haan can stay with his new club Feyenoord and need not return to Greece, as demanded by PAOK Salonika with whom he had a contract to the end of the season. The court rules that PAOK can file compensation claims against Haan in Greece.
ITALY: Milan's Portuguese forward Paulo Futre is sent for surgery in Paris to repair the right knee originally damaged two years ago . . . Inter win their first match under Roy Hodgson, defeating Third Division Fiorenzuola 2-1 in a third round Cup tie.
SPAIN: Johan Cruyff is banned from the touchline for five games for insulting gestures and verbal abuse to referee Manuel Diaz Vega in Sunday's 1-0 win over Valencia.
SWEDEN: Malmo's veteran midfielder Robert Prytz says he is retiring to live in Scotland . . . police report three officers were injured in clashes with 300 fans after Stockholm club Hammarby's relegation following Monday's 2-2 draw with IFK Gothenburg.
SWITZERLAND: Basel sack coach Didi Andrey.
UNITED STATES: Bruce Arena, who guided Virginia to four consecutive men's National Collegiate Athletic Association championships, is appointed coach of the US Olympic team.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25

ACTION: Stand-ins Aalborg snatch a late winner to defeat Panathinaikos 2-1 in their Champions League replay in Denmark . . . Sao Paulo win 1-0 to fellow Brazilians Cruzeiro in a South American Supercup quarter-final first leg which has to be abandoned 10 minutes into the second half end because Cruzeiro have been reduced to six players with four having sent off and one injured.
BRAZIL: Midfielder Juninho, who has just joined English club Middlesbrough, and left-back Roberto Carlos of Inter are included in the Brazil squad for a friendly against Argentina in Buenos Aires on November 8.
CROATIA: A federation spokesman says the arrest in France of national coach Miroslav Blazevic for alleged involvement in a Marseille-linked match-fixing scandal is a "misunderstanding" which can be cleared up in court.
FRANCE: The state prosecutor in Douai asks an appeals court to sentence former Marseille president Bernard Tapie to four months in jail and 14 months, suspended, for match-fixing.
ITALY: Parma's Hristo Stoichkov is banned for one match for taking a dive in the penalty area during Sunday's 1-1 draw against Roma at the weekend. He is also fined £2,400 . . . an investigating magistrate questions Dino Zoff, now president of Lazio, as part of an inquiry into suspected VAT evasion.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26

ACTION: China beat Colombia 2-1 in Beijing . . . Bolivia draw 2-2 with Ecuador.
FRANCE: The appeal judge in the Tapie match-fixing case sets November 28 as the date for judgement.
ITALY: Inter offer £5million for Sevilla's Croatian striker Davor Suker.
RUSSIA: Moscow Spartak sweeper Yuri Nikiforov agrees to a short trial with Albacete.
SPAIN: Barcelona appeal against the five-game touchline ban imposed on Johan Cruyff.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27

ITALY: Milan's Paulo Futre undergoes a third operation in two years on his damaged right knee . . . Hristo Stoichkov suggests Ajax's Lari Litmanen or Patrick Kluivert for his successor as European Footballer of the Year.
PORTUGAL: Benfica beat Leca 3-1, scoring all their goals after having been reduced to 10 men by the 30th-minute expulsion of Belgian keeper Michel Preud'homme for bringing down Ricardo Oliveira outside the area.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28

ACTION: In an African Champions Cup semi-final, second leg Express (Uganda) are held 1-1 by South Africa's Orlando Pirates who win 2-1 on aggregate . . . Julius Berger of Nigeria beat Maxaquene of Mozambique 1-0 on the day and on aggregate in a tragic African Cup-winners semi-final return game, with the death from heart failure after the match of Julius Berger's Amir Angwe . . . in Germany, Bayern Munich beat Stuttgart 5-3 . . . two goals from Patrick Kluivert helps Ajax thrash Roda 6-1 in Holland and extend their unbeaten domestic run to 46 games . . . Domingos scores two second-half goals as Porto struggle to win 2-0 at Farense and stay top of the Portuguese League . . . Barcelona surprisingly lose 2-1 away to Compostela in Spain despite taking the lead through Meho Kodro.
SWEDEN: The match between Djugarden and Halmstad on the last day of the season is abandoned after 65 minutes because of crowd trouble, with Halmstad winning 2-0. IFK Gothenburg are champions again.

X-WORD

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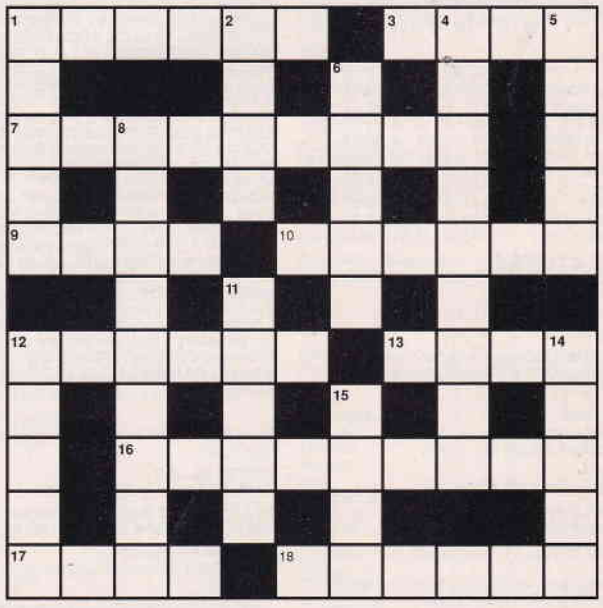
Rob Arkell, Croydon; Jesper Thorsen, Hellerup, Denmark; Tetsuo Yamauchi, Fujisawa City, Japan; G. Thor Sigurdarson, Reykjavik, Iceland; Godwin Pullicion, Glasgow.

LAST MONTH'S SOLUTION
Across: 1. Empoli 3. Gili 7. Argentina 9. Soto 10. Petrov 12. Steaua 13. Knup 16. Rasmussen 17. Hizo 19. Pancev
Down: 1. Evans 2. Linz 4. I A Akranes 5. Iliev 6. Niger 8. Gutierrez 11. Mussi 12. Smith 14. Penev 15. Duna

CLUES ACROSS
7 .....Ex-TM Pniewy and Poland Under-21 midfielder serving Grasshopper Zurich (5)
8 .....Penarol and Uruguay striker loaned to Italy's Vicenza (5)
9 .....Milan striker who joined Japan's Shimizu S-Pulse in 1995 (7)
10 .....Familiar name of Bulgaria's Cup-holders from Sofia (3)
11 .....Gulf state whose national side is coached by Venglos (4)
13 .....Swedish defender established at Switzerland's Hardturm Stadium (4)
17 .....Defender transferred pre-season from Inter to Udinese (3)
18 .....Argentinian international midfielder starring for Panathinaikos (7)
20 .....Coach who led Dundalk to Ireland's 1995 Premier League title triumph (5)
21 .....Tanzanian side, thrice East & Central African Club Cup winners, 90-95 (5)

CLUES DOWN
1 .....Brazil's Libertadores Cup champions (6)
2 .....Feyenoord midfielder formerly with Eindhoven and RKC (4)
3 .....Ex-Kispest and Hungary forward recruited by Bicskei to MTK (5)
4 .....Steaua central defender picked up from Dinamo Bucharest (5)
5 .....American goalkeeper contracted to Millwall (6)
6 .....Dutch centre-back in Manchester City's squad (4)
12 .....Armenian club - Soviet double winners in 1973 (6)
14 .....Ex-Vac winger now a part of the Ferencvaros side (6)
15 .....Burundi midfielder from Vital 'O at Mechelen with Minko and Mossi (5)
16 .....Successor to Stielike and Givens in the Neuchatel Xamax hot seat (5)
17 .....Azerbaijan city boasting the Republica national stadium (4)
19 .....Home city of Peru's Sporting Cristal (4)



Compiled by Christine Ansell

NAME _____

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DEC

NEWCASTLE THRASH WIMBLEDON 6-1 . . . METZ L

AUSTRIA

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

MIDWEEK

ADMIRA WACKER 0
GRAZER AK 2 (Amerhauser 2, 90) Att: 1,000

SALZBURG 0
RAPID WIEN 3 (Stumpf 7, 15, Barisic 75) Att:15,000

AUSTRIA WIEN 1 (Kogler 37)
FC TIROL 0 Att: 3,000

SV RIED 3 (Dampfhofer 34, Moseneder 44, Drechsel 72)
VORWARTS STEYR 1 (Westerthaler 45) Att: 7,000

STURM GRAZ 3 (Milanic 10, 60, Wetl 49)
LINZER ASK 1 (Haiden 58) Att: 5,000

AUSTRIAN CUP – 1ST RND

ADMIRA WACKER 4 RAPID WIEN 1; BREGENZ 2 GRAZER AK 7; GERSTOF 4 FIRST WIEN 6; OBERWART 0 LINZER ASK 1; SV RIED 2 SALZBURG 3; FC TIROL 2 STURM GRAZ 5; UNTERSIEBENBRUNN 0 VORWARTS 1; VOITSBERG 1 VFB MODLING 3; WAIDHOFEN 2 AUSTIA WIEN 6.

WEEKEND

LINZER ASK 0
SALZBURG 0 Att: 17,000

RAPID WIEN 4 (Stumpf 19, Pivarnik 59, Hatz 64, Barisic 71)
SV REID 1 (Angerschmid 41) Att: 8,000

STURM GRAZ 0
ADMIRA WACKER 0 Att: 5,000

FC TIROL 1 (Sane 60)
GRAZER AK 1 (Vukovic 26) Att: 4,000

VORWARTS STEYR 0
AUSTRIA WIEN 0 Att: 3,000

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

WEEKEND

ADMIRA WACKER 0
FC TIROL 0 Att: 2,000

SALZBURG 1 (Pfeifenberger 31)
STURM GRAZ 1 (Wetl 90) Att: 12,000

AUSTRIA WIEN 4 (Pacult 27, Kogler 45, Ogris 54, 61)
RAPID WIEN 1 (Barisic 89) Att: 20,000

GRAZER AK 1 (Steinbauer 82)
VORWARTS STEYR 1 (Grobl 5) Att: 3,000

SV REID 1 (Lesiak 77)
LINZER ASK 0 Att: 9,000

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

WEEKEND

GRAZER AK 1 LINZER ASK 0; FC TIRO 1 RAPID WIEN 2; RIED 0 SALZBURG 0; AUSTRIA WIEN 0 STURM GRAZ 3; ADMIRA WACKER 4 VORWARTS STEYR 1.

AUSTRIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rapid Wien	14	10	2	2	28	14	32
Sturm Graz	14	8	2	4	27	14	26
Grazer AK	14	6	4	4	23	18	22
Austria Wien	14	6	3	5	18	14	21
Casino Salzburg	14	4	7	3	17	17	19
SV Ried	14	5	3	5	19	21	19
Linzer ASK	14	4	5	5	11	12	17
FC Tirol	14	4	4	6	20	20	16
Admira Wacker	14	3	6	5	15	22	15
Vorwarts Steyr	14	0	3	11	8	34	3

BELGIUM

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

MIDWEEK

EKEREN 2 (Lukaku 15, Deflandre 47)
ANDERLECHT 2 (Weber 5, Crasson 29) Att: 8,500

WEEKEND

STANDARD 1 (Schepens 80)
CLUB BRUGGE 0 Att: 14,000

GENT 0
MECHELEN 0 Att: 6,800

CERCLE BRUGES 0
SERAING 0 Att: 2,500

AALST 3 (Paas 53, Meyssen 68, Van Ankeren 78)
CHARLEROI 4 (Casto 34, Remy 43, Misse Misse 57, Bmic 72) Att: 7,000

LIERSE 3 (De Sousa 14, Rekdal 47, Van Kerckhoven 83)
ST TRUIDEN 0 Att: 6,000

LOMMEL 2 (Machiels 19, Cannaerts 55)
ANDERLECHT 2 (Crasson 13, Preko 14) Att: 9,000

RWDM 1 (Wuyts 75)
EKEREN 0 Att: 3,500

ANTWERP 1 (Smidts 55)
BEVEREN 1 (Goots 19) Att: 3,500

HARELBEKE 2 (Frunza 64, Ngonge pen 70)
WAREGEM 1 (Urban 90) Att: 7,000

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

WEEKEND

STANDARD 2 (Goossens 22, Hullers 68)
ANDERLECHT 4 (Babayaro 32, Debilde 43, Preko 83, 90) Att: 22,000

LOMMEL 2 (Cannaerts 34, Waligora 62),
HARELBEKE 0 Att: 6,000

CERCLE BRUGES 3 (Kooreman 40, Renty 53, Lawers 79)
MECHELEN 2 (Peetermans 23, Cerniatynski 35) Att: 3,500

ANTWERP 2 (Aloisi 19, Severeyns 51)
WAREGEM 0 Att: 4,500

LIERSE 2 (De Sousa 27, Huysmans 84)
CLUB BRUGGE 2 (Spehar 14, Okon 34) Att: 13,800

RWDM 4 (Deglas 1, 51, 66, Pierre 34)
SERAING 0 Att: 6,000

EENDRACHT AALST 0
ST TRUIDEN 0 Att: 7,500

CHARLEROI 1 (Wuillo 65)
EKEREN 1 (Lakaku 59) Att: 9,000

GENT 3 (Demeyer 21, Verhoene 28, Calo 78)
BEVEREN 0 Att: 7,000

BELGIUM

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Club Brugge	14	8	4	2	31	13	28
Lierse	14	8	4	2	26	15	28
Anderlecht	14	8	3	3	30	16	27
RWDM	14	7	6	1	18	10	27
Harelbeke	14	7	2	5	19	16	23
Standard Liege	14	5	6	3	21	15	21
Charleroi	14	5	6	3	27	26	21
Eendracht Aalst	14	5	5	4	20	18	20
Mechelen	14	5	4	5	20	25	19
Cercle Brugge	14	3	9	2	19	21	18
Antwerp	13	4	3	6	18	20	15
Beveren	14	4	3	7	15	19	15
Ekeren	13	3	6	4	21	17	15
Gent	14	3	4	7	17	24	13
St Truiden	14	3	4	7	14	25	13
Lommel	14	3	3	8	15	23	12
Seraing	14	3	3	8	15	27	12
Waregem	14	2	3	9	13	29	9

ENGLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

MIDWEEK

SOUTHAMPTON 0
WEST HAM 0 Att: 13,568

WEEKEND

COCA-COLA [LEAGUE] CUP – 2ND RND, 2ND LEG

ARSENAL 5 HARTLEPOOL UTD 0 *(agg: 8-0);* **BLACKBURN 2 SWINDON 0** *(5-2);* **BRENTFORD 2 BOLTON 3** *(2-4);* **CHELSEA 0 STOKE CITY 1** *(0-1);* **CHESTER 1 TOTTENHAM 3** *(1-7);* **CRYSTAL PALACE 2 SOUTHEND 0** *(4-2);* **DERBY 1 SHREWSBURY 1** *(4-2);* **FULHAM 1 WOLVES 5** *(1-7);* **HULL CITY 0 COVENTRY 1** *(0-3);* **MAN CITY 4 WYCOMBE 0** *(4-0);* **NEWCASTLE 3 BRISTOL CITY 1** *(8-1);* **NOTTM FOREST 2 BRADFORD 2** *(4-5);* **NOTTS CO 2 LEEDS 3** *(2-3);* **PETERBOROUGH 1 ASTON VILLA 1** *(1-7);* **ROTHERHAM 0 MIDDLESBROUGH 1** *(1-3);* **SHEFF WED 5 CREWE 2** *(7-4);* **SOUTHAMPTON 2 CARDIFF 1** *(5-1);* **SUNDERLAND 0 LIVERPOOL 1** *(0-3);* **WEST HAM 3 BRISTOL ROVERS 0** *(4-0);* **YORK CITY 1 MAN UTD 3** *(4-3);* **CHARLTON 3 WIMBLEDON 3** *(8-7);* **EVERTON 2 MILLWALL 4** *(2-4);* **QPR 2 OXFORD UTD 1** *(3-2);* **BARNSLEY 4 HUDDERSFIELD 0** *(4-2);* **BOURNEMOUTH 1 WATFORD 1** *(2-2, Watford won 6-5 on pens);* **BURNLEY 0 LEICESTER 2** *(0-4);* **BURY 4 SHEFF UTD 2** *(5-4);* **GRIMSBY 1 BIRMINGHAM 1** *(2-4);* **IPSWICH 1 STOCKPORT CO 2** *(2-3);* **WEST BROM 2 READING 4** *(3-5);* **OLDHAM 1 TRANMERE 3** *(1-4).*

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

WEEKEND

ASTON VILLA 0
CHELSEA 1 (Wise 72) Att: 34,922

BLACKBURN 2 (Bohinen 19, Shearer 70),
SOUTHAMPTON 1 (Maddison 90) Att: 26,780

BOLTON 1 (Paatelainen 1)
EVERTON 1 (Rideout 85) Att: 20,427

LEEDS 0
ARSENAL 3 (Merson 43, Bergkamp 56, Wright 86) Att: 38,552

LIVERPOOL 0
COVENTRY 0 Att: 39,079

MAN UTD 1 (Scholes 5)
MAN CITY 0 Att: 35,707

QPR 2 (Dichio 45, 68)
NEWCASTLE 3 (Gillespie 46, 72, Ferndinand 56) Att: 18,254

TOTTENHAM 0
NOTTM. FOREST 1 (Stone 65) Att: 32,876

SHEFF WED 0
MIDDLESBROUGH 1 (Hignett pen 68) Att: 21,177

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

MIDWEEK

WIMBLEDON 0
WEST HAM 1 (Cottee 18) Att: 9,411

WEEKEND

ARSENAL 2 (Merson 48, I Wright 78)
ASTON VILLA 0 Att: 38,271

CHELSEA 1 (Hughes 76)
MAN UTD 4 (Scholes 4, 10, Giggs 79, McClair 85) Att: 31,019

COVENTRY 0
SHEFF WED 1 (Whittingham 16) Att: 13,998

MAN CITY 0
LEEDS 0 Att: 26,390

MIDDLESBROUGH 1 (Hignett pen 15)
QPR 0 Att: 29,293

NEWCASTLE 6 (Howey 31, Ferdinand 35, 41, 63, Clark 59, Albert 84)
WIMBLEDON 1 (Gayle 60) Att: 36,434

NOTTM FOREST 3 (Roy 27, Lee 68, Cooper 90)
BOLTON 2 (Sneekes 22, De Freitas 78) Att:25,426

WEST HAM 1 (Dowie 27)
BLACKBURN 1 (Shearer 90) Att: 21,776

EVERTON 1 (Stuart 12)
TOTTENHAM 1 (Armstrong 38) Att:33,629

SOUTHAMPTON 1 (Watson 2)
LIVERPOOL 3 (McManaman 21, 54, Redknapp 73) Att: 15,245

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

MIDWEEK

COCA-COLA [LEAGUE] CUP - 3RD RND

BARNSLEY 0
ARSENAL 3 (Bould 38, Bergkamp 42, Keown 76) Att: 18,429

BIRMINGHAM 1 (McGreal 2 og)
TRANMERE 1 (Moore 75) Att: 13,752

BOLTON 0
LEICESTER 0 Att: 9,166

READING 0
BURY 2 (Stant 5, Rigby 15) Att: 6,500
Abandoned due to heavy rain

WATFORD 1 (Phillips 43)
BLACKBURN 2 (Shearer 58, Newell 79) Att: 17,035

ASTON VILLA 0
STOCKPORT 0 Att: 17,679

COVENTRY 3
TOTTENHAM 2 (Ndlovu 55 pen, Busst 61, Salako 76) Att: 18,227

CRYSTAL PALACE 2 (Hopkin 3, 8)
MIDDLESBROUGH 2 (Barmby 15, Hignett 21) Att: 11,873

DERBY COUNTY 0
LEEDS 0 Att: 16,030

LIVERPOOL 4 (Scales 9, Fowler 74, Rush 79, Harkness 82)
MAN CITY 0 Att: 29,394

MILLWALL 0
SHEFFIELD WED 2 (Pembridge 15, Whittingham 64) Att: 12,822

NORWICH 0
BRADFORD 0 Att: 11,649

QPR 3 (Sinclair 24, Impey 55, Atkin 65 og)
YORK 1 (Barnes 10) Att: 12,972

SOUTHAMPTON 2 (Watson 4, Shipperley 79)
WEST HAM 1 (Cottee 33) Att: 11,059

STOKE CITY 0
NEWCASTLE 4 (Beardsley 30, 39, Ferndinand 52, Peacock 73) Att: 23,000

WOLVES 0
CHARLTON 0 Att: 22,481

WEEKEND

ASTON VILLA 1 (Yorke 76)
EVERTON 0 Att: 32,792

BLACKBURN 3 (Sherwood 39, shearer 49, Newell 57)
CHELSEA 0 Att: 27,733

LEEDS 3 (McAllister 39, 43, 90 pen)
COVENTRY 1 (Dublin 12) Att: 30,161

LIVERPOOL 6 (Rush 3, 64, Fowler 47, 60, Redknapp 5, Ruddock 53)
MAN CITY 0 Att: 39,267

MAN UTD 2 (Pallister 44, Cole 87)
MIDDLESBROUGH 0 Att: 36,580

QPR 1 (Sinclair 80)
NOTTM FOREST 1 (Lee 46) Att: 17,549

SHEFF WED 0
WEST HAM 1 (Dowie 40) Att: 23,917

WIMBLEDON 1 (Ewell 63)
SOUTHAMPTON 2 (Shipperley 9, 74) Att: 7,982

ENGLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newcastle	11	9	1	1	27	8	28
Man United	11	8	2	1	23	11	26
Liverpool	11	7	2	2	24	8	23
Arsenal	10	6	3	1	15	5	21
Nottm. Forest	11	5	6	0	19	12	21
Middlesbrough	11	6	3	2	11	6	21
Aston Villa	11	6	2	3	13	8	20
Leeds	11	6	2	3	17	13	20
Tottenham	11	4	4	3	16	14	16
Chelsea	11	4	3	4	11	14	15
Blackburn	11	4	2	5	16	15	14
West Ham	11	3	4	4	10	12	13
Sheffield Wed	11	3	2	6	9	13	11
QPR	11	3	1	7	10	17	10
Wimbledon	11	3	1	7	15	25	10
Everton	11	2	3	6	12	16	9
Southampton	11	2	3	6	11	20	9
Coventry	11	1	4	6	8	21	7
Bolton	10	1	2	7	11	22	5
Man City	11	0	2	9	3	21	2

FRANCE

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

WEEKEND

NICE 0
METZ 1 (Pires 17) Att: 8,511

GUEUGNON 0
LENS 1 (Camara 90) Att: 7,118

PARIS SG 1 (Loko 28)
RENNES 1 (P-Y Andre 62) Att: 31,575

MARTIGUES 1 (Sow 11 pen)
AUXERRE 2 (Guivarch 85, Lamouchi 87) Att: 3,500

NANTES 2 (Thuram 69 og, N'Doram 73 pen)
MONACO 2 (Madar 71, 83) Att: 20,396

GUINGAMP 2 (Candela 65, Rouxel 80 pen)
CANNES 0 Att: 9,646

BASTIA 1 (Maroselli 11)
LE HAVRE 0 Att: 6,000

ST ETIENNE 0
MONTPELLIER 2 (Rizzetto 69, Laurey 90) Att: 12,215

BORDEAUX 1 (Dogon 16)
LYON 1 (Chavrondier 72) Att: 12,432

LILLE 2 (Simba 31, 70)
STRASBOURG 0 Att: 7,496

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

WEEKEND

LENS 1 (Camara 29)
MARTIGUES 0 Att: 23,150

AUXERRE 2 (Lamouchi 38, Tasfaout 79)
NICE 1 (Debbah 68) Att: 7,000

CANNES 0
NANTES 2 (Ouedec pen 45, Carotti 79) Att: 4,000

LE HAVRE 2 (Caveglia pen 1, Lagrange 39)
ST ETIENNE 2 (Cuca 43, 68) Att: 8,793

LYON 0
PARIS SG 0 Att: 30,725

METZ 2 (Blanchard 14, 61)
BORDEAUX 0 Att: 25,182

MONACO 0
GUEUGNON 0 Att: 2,500

MONTPELLIER 4 (Lefevre 40, 49, 90, Rizzetto 60)
BASTIA 3 (Lauren 43 Drobnjak 64 89) Att: 8,907

RENNES 3 (Cyprien 10, Wiltord 70, 75)
LILLE 1 (Collot 28) Att: 8,385

STRASBOURG 0
GUINGAMP 0 Att: 11,173

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

WEEKEND

BASTIA 1 (Drobnjak 32)
STRASBOURG 1 (Zitelli 58) Att: 5,000

BORDEAUX 0
RENNES 0 Att: 11,512

GUEUGNON 1 (Traore 44 pen)
CANNES 1 (Horlaville pen 20) Att: 6,714

GUINGAMP 2 (Ray 37, Rouxel pen 65)
LE HAVRE 2 (Huysman 32, Caveglia 87) Att: 10,076

LILLE 0
METZ 0 Att: 11,014

MONACO 3 (Scifo 20, Henry 61, Anderson da Silva 75)
MONTPELLIER 1 (Lefevre 5) Att: 3,000

NANTES 0
LYON 0 Att: 30,474

NICE 1 (Zamfir og 55)
MARTIGUES 0 Att: 4,184

PARIS SG 3 (Djorkaeff 2, Rai 57, Nouma 68)
AUXERRE 1 (Cocard 53) Att: 36,167

ST ETIENNE 1 (Manucci 72)
LENS 1 (Delmotte 60) Att: 10,501

AT HOME TO PARIS SG BUT STAY TOP . . . AJAX STILL UNBEATEN . . . LAZIO HAMMER JUVENTUS 4-0 . . .

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

WEEKEND

METZ 0
PARIS SG 3 (Guerin 12, Rai 37, 90) Att: 24,582

LENS 0
GUINGAMP 1 (Baret 55) Att: 26,268

AUXERRE 1 (Tasfaout 3)
LILLE 2 (Boutoille 60, 69) Att: 6,000

CANNES 1 (Kozniku 75)
MONACO 1 (Viaud 45) Att: 2,000

LE HAVRE 0
NANTES 1 (Ouedec 2) Att: 12,654

MONTPELLIER 2 (Lefevre 21, Sanchez 63)
GUEUGNON 2 (Traore 45 pen, Brunel 83) Att: 8,027

STRASBOURG 3 (Zitelli 52, Sauzee 58, Mostovoi 78)
ST ETIENNE 1 (Cuca 88) Att: 13,385

LYON 1 (Roy 62)
BASTIA 1 (Drobnjak 54) Att: 21,779

RENNES 1 (P-Y Andre 54)
NICE 0 Att: 15,592

MARTIGUES 3 (Romano 63, Boinaheri 74, Sow 89)
BORDEAUX 1 (Bancarel 58) Att: 4,005

FRANCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Metz	15	9	5	1	17	8	32
Paris SG	15	9	4	2	28	12	31
Lens	15	8	5	2	20	11	29
Auxerre	15	8	1	6	27	19	25
Monaco	15	7	4	4	26	19	25
Guingamp	15	6	7	2	13	8	25
Nantes	15	6	6	3	17	14	24
Montpellier	15	6	4	5	21	20	22
Strasbourg	15	5	6	4	21	15	21
Bastia	15	6	3	6	22	22	21
Rennes	15	6	3	6	17	19	21
Nice	15	5	4	6	15	14	19
Bordeaux	15	5	3	7	17	20	18
Lyon	15	3	7	5	11	14	16
Le Havre	15	4	3	8	10	22	15
St Etienne	15	3	5	7	20	26	14
Lille	15	3	4	8	12	21	13
Guegnon	15	2	7	6	12	21	13
Martigues	15	4	1	10	11	20	13
Cannes	15	3	2	10	17	28	11

GERMANY

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

WEEKEND

GERMAN CUP – 1ST RND

UNTERHACHING 2 KARLSRUHE 3; SC FREIBURG 0 BORUSSIA DORTMUND 1; FORTUNA DUSSELDORF 3 CHEMNITZ 1; ROT-WEISS ESSEN 4 BAYER EVERKUSEN 4; ALTMARK STENDAL 2 WALDHOF MANNHEIM 2; HOMBURG 2 1860 MUNICH 1 NURNBURG 3 WERDER BREMEN 2; KAISERSLAUTERN 1 SCHALKE 0.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

WEEKEND

HANSA ROSTOCK 3 (Weilandt 34, R. Schneider 45, Berthold og 81)
VfB STUTTGART 3 (Bobic 28, Verlaat 53, Elber 77) Att: 23,620

SCHALKE 1 (Mulder 82)
KAISERSLAUTERN 1 (Marschall 39) Att: 30,200

BAYERN MUNICH 1 (Papin 89)
BORUSSIA MG 2 (Effenberg 20, A. Herzog og 82) Att: 63,000

EINTRACHT FRANKFURT 2 (Okocha 79, 82)
ST PAULI 2 (Savichev 72, 81) Att: 24,500

FORTUNA DUSSELDORF 0
SC FREIBURG 0 Att: 16,500

HAMBURG 2 (Hartmann 51, Albertz 56)
1860 MUNICH 2 (Bodden 65, Borimirov 81) Att: 25,709

KARLSRUHE 2 (Dundee 51, 60)
KFC UERDINGEN 0 Att: 19,000

WERDER BREMEN 2 (Bode 45, Hobsch 62)
BORUSSIA DORTMUND 2 (Moller 1, Berger 59) Att: 29,600

KOLN 2 (Munteanu 34, Gaissmayer 66)
BAYER LEVERKUSEN 2 (Feldhoff 11, Sergio 37) Att: 36,000

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

WEEKEND

LEVERKUSEN 0
SCHALKE 0 Att: 26,000

KFC UERDINGEN 1 (Meijer 52)
HANSA ROSTOCK 1 (Baumgart 25) Att: 9,835

BORUSSIA DORTMUND 3 (Kohler 61, Zorc 71, Herrlich 84)
KOLN 0 Att: 42,800

FREIBURG 0
HAMBURG 3 (Albertz 8, 44, Sporl 85) Att: 22,500

KAISERSLAUTERN 2 (M. Wagner 39, Wollitz 74)
FORTUNA 0 Att: 32,420

ST PAULI 0
BAYERN MUNICH 1 (Klinsmann 10) Att: 20,725

1860 MUNICH 1 (Borimirov 77)
KARLSRUHE 1 (Dundee 57) Att: 30,500

STUTTGART 3 (Balakov 42, Elber 67, Bobic 83)
EINTRACHT FRANKFURT 2 (Hagner 23, Mornar 88) Att: 35,000

BORUSSIA MG 1 (Effenberg 78)
WERDER BREMEN 0 Att: 34,500

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

WEEKEND

BAYERN MUNICH 5 (Struz 45, Zickler 49, 86, Scholl 63 pen, 90 pen)
STUTTGART 3 (Kruse 77, Elber 80 85) Att: 63,000

SCHALKE 1 (Muler 10)
BORUSSIA DORTMUND 2 (Ricken 42, Zorc 90) Att: 70,960

KOLN 0
BORUSSIA MG 2 (Pflipsen 39, Effenberg 68) Att: 51,000

HANSA ROSTOCK 1 (Klee 75)
EINTRACHT 1 (Okocha 43) Att: 58,492

FORTUNA 1 (Buncol 62)
LEVERKUSEN 1 (Voller 37) Att: 17,000

WERDER BREMEN 1 (Hobsch 34)
ST PAULI 1 (Hanke 65) Att: 29,699

KARLSRUHE 1 (Dundee 40)
FREIBURG 1 (Zeyer 61) Att: 33,800

KFC UERDINGEN 2 (Passlack 11, Wedau 25)
1860 MUNICH 0 Att: 14,638

HAMBURG 1 (M. Wagner 7 og)
KAISERSLAUTERN 0 Att: 22,619

GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bayern Munich	11	9	0	2	27	14	27
Bor. Dortmund	11	7	3	1	29	16	24
Borussia MG	11	7	1	3	19	16	22
Hansa Rostock	11	4	5	2	21	16	17
Leverkusen	11	3	7	1	15	10	16
VfB Stuttgart	11	4	4	3	26	24	16
Werder Bremen	11	3	6	2	14	14	15
Schalke	11	3	6	2	12	12	15
Hamburg	11	2	7	2	18	16	13
Karlsruhe	11	3	4	4	13	16	13
Uerdingen	11	2	6	3	9	9	12
St Pauli	11	3	3	5	16	19	12
Kaiserslautern	11	2	5	4	13	16	11
Dusseldorf	11	1	7	3	11	15	10
Ein./ Frankfurt	11	2	4	5	19	24	10
1860 Munich	11	2	4	5	13	21	10
Koln	11	1	5	5	9	16	8
SC Freiburg	11	1	3	7	6	16	6

HOLLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

WEEKEND

FORTUNA SITTARD 2 (Hamming 17, 48)
GA EAGLES 2 (Schenning 19, De Cheiver 65) Att: 4,500

RODA JC 1 (Roelofsen 68)
PSV 1 (Cocu 78) Att: 10,500

RKC 1 (Muller 63)
UTRECHT 0 Att: 3,200

NAC 0
SPARTA 0 Att: 10,200

VOLENDAM 0
WILLEM 11 0 Att: 2,500

AJAX 3 (Kluivert 23, Davids 53, R. de Boer 71)
VITESSE 0 Att: 19,500

DE GRAAFSCHAP 0
FC TWENTE 3 (Boerebach 31, Bruggink 67, Platvoet 87) Att: 7,300

NEC 1 (Suniala 70)
HEERENVEN 3 (Echteld 86, Talan 44, Tammer 90) Att: 2,500.

FEYENOORD 4 (Iwan 26, Obiku 49, Larsson 68, Koeman 80 pen)
GRONINGEN 1 (Gorre 73) Att: 25,000

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

WEEKEND

GA EAGLES 1 (Decheiver 53)
NAC 1 (Arnold 31) Att: 6,000

GRONINGEN 0
RODA JC 1 (Trost 76) Att: 13,150

HEERENVEEN 4 (Tomasson 30, 60, Talan 49, Tammer 86)
SPARTA 0 Att: 13,200

PSV 4 (Eijkelkamp 2, 54, Cocu 68, Nilis 90)
RKC 0 Att: 24,300

UTRECHT 2 (Van der Net 43, Roest 90)
FORTUNA SITTARD 3 (Hamming 2, 48, Simons 58) Att: 5,500

FC TWENTE 0
AJAX 3 (Litmanen 26, Overmars 31, 60) Att: 13,500

VITESSE 2 (Gorter 20, Korsten 83)
NEC 2 (Van Diemen 42, Poutilo 90) Att: 6,709

VOLENDAM 1 (Samardzic 12)
DE GRAAFSCHAP 1 (Victoria 47) Att: 3,000

WILLEM II 2 (Van der Vegt 2, Feskens 49)
FEYENOORD 2 (Obiku 51, Van Bronckhort 57) Att: 14,700

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

MIDWEEK

NAC 3 (Arnold 22, Remie 71, Brusselers 77)
UTRECHT 0 Att: 9,150

WEEKEND

SPARTA 4 (Groenendijk 7, D de Nooijer 34, 56, Fortes 41)
TWENTE 2 (Bosvelt 53, 73) Att: 2,750

FORTUNA 1 (Roelofsen 86)
HEERENVEEN 2 (Echteld 18, Tomasson 73) Att: 5,000

GA EAGLES 1 (Decheiver 37)
VITESSE 3 (Makaay 15, Gorter 40, 64) Att: 6,000

DE GRAAFSCHAP 0
RODA JC 2 (Roelofsen 15, De Kock 78) Att: 6,700

NEC 2 (Viedma 45, Sumiala 73)
VOLENDAM 1 (Smeets 86) Att: 3,000

PSV 7 (Eijkelkamp 13, Zenden 33, 49, 64, Nilis 53, 84, Pahlplatz 90)
GRONINGEN 1 (De Kruyff 24) Att: 24,500

WILLEM II 1 (Lammers 50)
RKC 2 (Streppel 26, Muller 30) Att: 8,100

FEYENOORD 2 (Zwijnenberg 2, Larsson 7)
AJAX 4 (Bogarde 13, Litmanen 29, Overmars 37, 57) Att: 42,100

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

MIDWEEK

SPARTA 3 (Dennis de Nooijer 64, Krijgsman 70, Fortes 73)
VITESSE 0 Att: 3,200

RODA JC 1 (Doomernik 66, Van Gastel 80)
WILLEM II 1 (Van Gastel 80). Att: 7,150

HEERENVEEN 2 (Hansma 62, Tammer 88)
GA EAGLES 1 (Decheiver 51) Att: 12,400

RKC 1 (Muller 14)
GRONINGEN 3 (Bombarda 13, 73, Rosen 22) Att: 4,100

NAC 2 (Remie 23, 84)
FORTUNA 0 Att: 9,255

FEYENOORD 2
DE GRAAFSCHAP 0

TWENTE 2 (Ellerman 54, Platvoet 81)
NEC 0 Att: 6,000

AJAX 4 (F. de Boer 15, R. de Boer 18, 51, Wooter 79)
VOLENDAM 0 Att: 19,500

UTRECHT 1 (Graanoogst 5)
PSV EINDHOVEN 4 (Valckx 43, Nilis 56, Jonk 70, Cocu 79) Att: 9,500

WEEKEND

PSV EINDHOVEN 2 (Faber 8, Nilis 86)
WILLEM II 0 Att: 26,800

GRONINGEN 0
UTRECHT 0 Att: 11,112

HEERENVEEN 1 (Tomasson 30)
NAC 1 (Scheepers 29) Att: 13,450

VITESSE 5 (Curovic 40, Jochemsen 45, Vandekoi 72, Laros 75, Makaay 82)
FORTUNA 1 (Ricksen 58) Att: 5,439

VOLENDAM 1 (Smeets 88)
SPARTA 1 (Van der Laan 36) Att: 3,000

TWENTE 2 (Boerebach 54, Mols 65)
GA EAGLES 1 (Mulshoff 60 pen) Att: 6,000

AJAX 6 (Kluivert 12, 55, Litmanen 16, Blind 21, Davids 36, Kanu 66)
RODA JC 1 (Roelofsen 52) Att: 19,296

DE GRAAFSCHAP 1 (Goder 70)
RKC WAALWIJK 1 (Wijnhard 8) Att: 6,300

NEC 1 (Pothuizen 20)
FEYENOORD 3 (Iwan 51, Trustfull 66, Blinker 84) Att: 11,500

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ajax	12	12	0	0	47	3	36
PSV	12	10	1	1	38	8	31
Heerenveen	12	6	4	2	21	19	22
Feyenoord	12	6	3	3	30	20	21
Willem II	12	5	5	2	25	12	20
FC Groningen	12	5	3	4	18	20	18
Sparta	12	5	3	4	18	21	18
NAC	12	4	5	3	17	11	17
RKC	12	5	2	5	15	19	17
Vitesse	12	4	3	5	19	22	15
FC Twente	12	4	3	5	18	22	15
Roda JC	12	3	6	3	10	14	15
NEC	12	3	2	7	14	28	11
Fortuna Sittard	12	3	2	7	11	27	11
FC Utrecht	12	2	3	7	9	22	9
De Graafschap	12	1	4	7	13	25	7
FC Volendam	12	1	4	7	9	27	7
GA Eagles	12	1	3	8	15	27	6

ITALY

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

WEEKEND

ATALANTA 1 (Morfeo 84)
INTER 1 (Herrera og 71) Att: 32,000

CAGLIARI 1 (Oliveira pen 44)
CREMONESE 0 Att: 18,000

LAZIO 2 (Rosa 75 og, Fuser 82)
PADOVA 0 Att: 50,000

MILAN 2 (Simone 7, Weah 14)
JUVENTUS 1 (Del Piero 81) Att: 82,798

NAPOLI 0
FIORENTINA 2 (Tarantino og 78, M. Orlando 86) Att: 64,464

PARMA 1 (Melli 76)
UDINESE 0 Att: 24,000

PIACENZA 3 (Corini 15, Piovani 17, Caccia 21)
SAMPDORIA 2 (Maniero 48, Mancini 90) Att: 12,000

TORINO 2 (Pele 16, Cervone og 27)
AS ROMA 2 (Branca 36, Cappioli 41) Att: 19,565

VICENZA 2 (Otero 24, 43)
BARI 0 Att: 16,121

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

WEEKEND

BARI 3 (Andersson 55, Protti 62, Guerrero 82)
CAGLIARI 0 Att: 20,000

CREMONESE 1 (Perovic 44)
ATALANTA 1 (Perovic 44) Att: 8,000

INTER 0
LAZIO 0 Att: 50,000

JUVENTUS 3 (Del Piero 40, Ravanelli 54, Conte 90)
PADOVA 1 (Amoruso 77) Att: 39,587

PIACENZA 0
NAPOLI 1 (Taibi og 69) Att: 15,000

ROMA 1 (Fonseca 46)
PARMA 1 (Baggio 75) Att: 54,525

SAMPDORIA 2 (Maniero 21, Salsano 72)
FIORENTINA 1 (Rui Costa pen 56) Att: 25,000

UDINESE 1 (Bierhoff pen 73)
TORINO 0 Att: 12,728

VICENZA 1 (Murgita 48)
MILAN 1 (Eranio 44) Att: 20,000

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

WEEKEND

INTER 1 (M. Paganin 19)
MILAN 1 (Savicevic 46) Att: 75,000

PARMA 3 (Zola 24, 61, Inzaghi 92)
PIACENZA 2 (A. Carbone 52, Caccia 82 pen) Att: 24,000

LAZIO 4 (Signori 40, Casiraghi 48, 77, Rambaudi 72)
JUVENTUS 0 Att: 70,000

NAPOLI 0
CREMONESE 0 Att: 45,000

FIORENTINA 3 (Robbiati 42, Rui Costa 71, Batistuta 86)
BARI 2 (P. Annoni 79, Protti 90) Att: 35,000

ATALANTA 0
UDINESE 0 Att: 16,000

TORINO 1 (Lopez 61 og)
VICENZA 0 Att: 18,000

ROMA 2 (Fonseca 14, 68)
CAGLIARI 0 Att: 20,000

PADOVA 1 (Ciocci 42)
SAMPDORIA 1 (R. Mancini 44) Att: 13,000

ITALY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Milan	8	5	2	1	13	7	17
Parma	8	5	2	1	14	9	17
Lazio	8	4	4	0	16	6	16
Napoli	8	4	3	1	10	6	15
Fiorentina	8	5	0	2	14	11	15
Juventus	8	4	2	2	14	9	14
Udinese	8	3	3	2	9	8	12
Vicenza	8	3	2	3	7	6	11
Inter	8	2	4	2	9	6	10
Sampdoria	8	2	4	2	11	9	10
AS Roma	8	2	4	2	8	7	10
Atalanta	8	2	4	2	7	9	10
Torino	8	2	3	3	8	12	9
Bari	8	2	2	4	13	15	8
Cagliari	8	2	1	5	4	11	7
Piacenza	8	2	1	5	9	19	7
Cremonese	8	0	3	5	6	13	3
Padova	8	0	2	6	6	16	2

PORTUGAL

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

MIDWEEK

SPORTING LISBON 2 (Pedro Barbosa 49, Amunike 84)
BENFICA 0

BARCELONA THRASH BETIS 5-1 . . . ATLETICO RE

FC PORTO 1 (Folha 73)
BOAVISTA 0

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

WEEKEND

BENFICA 3 (Panduru 23, Helder 45, Hassan Nader pen 65)
GIL VICENTE 0

CAMPOMAIORENSE 1 (Jose Albano 72)
LECA 1 (Cao 86)

FELGUEIRAS 2 (Amaral 10, Lewis 50)
BOAVISTA 0

MARITIMO 1 (Robson 65)
BELENENSES 2 (Fertout 19, 89)

SALGUEIROS 0
AMADORA 0

SPORTING BRAGA 0
FC PORTO 3 (Domingos 35, 44, Drulovic 47)

FARENSE 0
CHAVES 0

TIRSENSE 2 (Daoudi pen 78, Rebelo 83)
GUIMARAES 2 (Capucho 3, Edinho 24)

LEIRIA 1 (Marco Aurelio og 78)
SPORTING LISBON 2 (Naybet 55, Oceano 68)

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

WEEKEND

AMADORA 0
TIRSENSE 0

BELENENSES 0
SALGUEIROS 1 (Vinha 82)

BOAVISTA 5 (Jaime Alves 35, 42, Nuno Goames 44, 86, Timofte 51)
SPORTING BRAGA 2 (Jose Azevedo 20, Bruno 89)

SPORTING LISBON 2 (Paulo Alves 15, Vujacic 18)
MARITIMO 0

DESP. CHAVES 1 (Rui Loja 65)
BENFICA 2 (Valdo 73, Hassan Nader 76)

GIL VICENTE 1 (Bilro og 23)
LEIRIA 0

LECA 2 (Matias 16, Constantino 53)
FARENSE 1 (Christian 62)

FC PORTO 5 (Edmilsson 2, 41, Domingos 24, 44, Drulovic 25)
CAMPOMAIORENSE 0

GUIMARAES 2 (Tanta 57, Capucho 87)
FELGUEIRAS 0

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

WEEKEND

BENFICA 3 (Paulao 44, Iliev 45, Hassan 80)
LECA 1 (Paredao 64 og)

GUIMARAES 3 (Zahovic 17, Vitor Paneira 82, Gilmar 89)
AMADORA 0

TIRSENSE 0
BELENENSES 0

FARENSE 0
FC PORTO 2 (Domingos 51, 61)

CAMPOMAIORENSE 0
BOAVISTA 2 (Timofte 21, Artur 63)

FELGUEIRAS 1 (Karoglan 18)
SPORTING BRAGA 1 (Amaral 29)

LEIRIA 4 (Porfirio 19, Tahar 25, Hugo 32, Mauricio 68)
DESP. CHAVES 1 (Manuel Correia 68)

MARITIMO 1 (Jokanovic 49 pen)
GIL VICENTE 0

SALGUEIROS 2 (Vinha 18, Renato 86)
SPORTING 2 (Paulo Alves 42, 72)

PORTUGAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
FC Porto	9	8	1	0	19	2	25
Sporting Lisbon	9	6	2	1	20	7	20
Benfica	9	6	2	1	12	5	20
Boavista	9	6	1	2	16	7	19
Guimaraes	9	5	2	2	14	9	17
Salgueiros	9	3	5	1	11	7	14
Sporting Braga	9	4	2	3	11	15	14
Belenenses	9	4	2	3	11	9	14
Maritimo	9	4	1	4	15	10	13
Felgueiras	9	2	5	2	9	8	11
Uniao Leiria	9	3	0	6	13	20	9
Leca	9	2	2	5	8	15	8
Farense	9	2	2	5	7	11	8
Tirsense	9	1	5	3	7	12	8
Gil Vicente	9	2	1	6	6	14	7
Desp. Chaves	9	1	3	5	12	17	6
Estrela Amadora	9	1	3	5	5	10	6
Campomaiorense	9	1	1	7	7	25	4

SCOTLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

MIDWEEK

RANGERS 2 (Gascoigne 10, McCoist 68)
MOTHERWELL 1 (McSkimming 51) Att: 37,350

HEARTS 1 (Robertson 24)
ABERDEEN 2 (Dodds 18, Booth 60) Att: 10,930

FALKIRK 0
CELTIC 1 (Hughes 79) Att: 9,090

RAITH 3 (Cameroon 13, 56, Sinclair 53)
HIBERNIAN 0 Att: 6,050

PARTICK THISTLE 1 (Craig 20 pen)
KILMARNOCK 1 (Watson 40 og) Att: 4,000

WEEKEND

ABERDEEN 0
RANGERS 1 (Moore 78) Att: 22,500

MOTHERWELL 0
RAITH ROVERS 2 (Dair 42, Sinclair 69) Att: 5,730

CELTIC 2 (Hooijdonk 59, Collins 67)
PARTICK THISTLE 1 (Smith 90) Att: 33,600

HIBERNIAN 2 (D. Jackson 30 pen, McAllister 57)
FALKIRK 1 (McKenzie 68) Att: 8,790

KILMARNOCK 3 (Brown 43, McKee 44, 62)
HEARTS 1 (Lawrence 9) Att: 6,720

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

WEEKEND

CELTIC 2 (Harper 27, Van Hoojidonk 65)
HIBERNIAN 2 (Harper 27, D Jackson pen 83) Att: 34,123

FALKIRK 0
KILMARNOCK 2 (Mitchell 3, Wright 44) Att: 4,878

HEARTS 4 (Millar 9, Lawrence 12, 76, Robertson 65)
RAITH 2 (Graham 63, Crawford 80) Att: 10,133

MOTHERWELL 2 (Coyne 42, Lambert 56)
ABERDEEN 1 (Booth 24) Att: 6,842

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

WEEKEND

ABERDEEN 3 (Watson og 24, Jess 54, Bernard 79)
PARTICK THISTLE 0 Att: 12,800

RANGERS 4 (Gascoigne 1, Salenko 25, 84, Durie 36)
HEARTS 1 (Millar 79) Att: 45,155

HIBERNIAN 4 (D. Jackson 2, 19 pen, Wright 30, O'Neill 89)
MOTHERWELL 2 (Hendry 74, 90) Att: 9,896

KILMARNOCK 0
CELTIC 0 Att: 14,011

RAITH ROVERS 0
FALKIRK 1 (McGrillen 44) Att: 4,715

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

WEEKEND

FALKIRK 2 (Weir 24, Johnston 89)
HEARTS 0 Att: 6,780

RAITH ROVERS 2 (Lennon 50, Cameron 67)
RANGERS 2 (Salenko 55, Petric 66) Att: 14,500

CELTIC 2 (McLaughlin 40, Van Hooydonk 59 pen)
ABERDEEN 0 Att: 34,900

PARTICK THISTLE 1 (Docherty 90)
MOTHERWELL 0 Att: 4,500

HIBERNIAN 2 (O'Neill 45, Wright 65)
KILMARNOCK 0 Att: 10,400

SCOTLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rangers	10	8	1	1	22	5	25
Celtic	10	6	3	1	16	8	21
Hibernian	10	5	4	1	18	12	19
Aberdeen	10	5	1	4	17	13	16
Raith	10	4	1	5	14	16	13
Motherwell	10	2	4	4	11	13	10
Partick	10	2	4	4	9	16	10
Falkirk	10	2	2	6	8	15	8
Kilmarnock	10	2	2	6	7	15	8
Hearts	10	2	2	6	14	23	8

SPAIN

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

MIDWEEK

ATLETICO MADRID 2 (Quico 5, Pantic 61)
ESPANYOL 1 (Lardin 45) Att: 55,000

BARCELONA 4 (Baquero 15, 31, 36, Hagi 88)
REAL OVIEDO 1 (Oli 59) Att: 85,000

COMPOSTELA 1 (Christensen 43)
VALLECANO 0 Att: 8,000

REAL BETIS 0
ATHLETIC BILBAO 0 Att: 40,000

REAL SOCIEDAD 2 (De Pedro 40, Purk 54)
LA CORUNA 1 (Radchenko 39) Att: 18,000

VALENCIA 4 (Galvez 24, Fernando 29, Mijatovic 40, Arroyo 83)
REAL MADRID 3 (Laudrup 51 pen, Alcorta 65, Michel 90) Att: 49,000.

REAL ZARAGOZA 1 (Aragon 45)
SALAMANCA 0 Att: 16,000

SPORTING GIJON 3 (Tomas 16, Julio Salinas 74, Hugo Perez 90)
SEVILLA 1 (Carlos 45) Att: 14,300

ALBACETE 4 (Kassoumov 15, 58, Bjelica 38, Zalazar 69 pen)
REAL VALLADOLID 2 (Sotero 11 og, Quevedo 86) Att: 12,000

TENERIFE 1 (Pizzi 38 pen)
MERIDA 0 Att: 14,000

RACING SANTANDER 2 (Popov 33, Mutiu 72)
CELTA VIGO 1 (Sanchez 26) Att: 13,340

WEEKEND

CELTA VIGO 0
ATLETICO MADRID 3 (Simeone 35, Quico 58, 57) Att: 25,000

REAL BETIS 1 (Pier 46)
BARCELONA 5 (Roger 6, Figo 25, Celades 80, Toni 82, De La Pena 89) Att: 45,000

ESPANYOL 0
SPORTING GIJON 0 Att: 30,000

REAL OVIEDO 0
VALENCIA 1 (Fernando 77) Att: 15,790

ATHLETICO BILBAO 1 (Carlos Garcia 53)
SEVILLA 1 (Carlos 71) Att: 38,000

REAL ZARAGOZA 0
TENERIFE 2 (Pizzi 55, Pinilla 86) Att: 25,000

LA CORUNA 2 (Bebeto 67, Merino 90 og)
RACING SANTANDER 3 (Mutiu 25, Faizulin 51, Luis 56) Att: 28,000

MERIDA 1 (Prieto 50)
ALBACETE 1 (Escaich 89) Att: 11,000

REAL MADRID 2 (Hierro 25, Zamorano 26)
COMPOSTELA 1 (Jose Ramon 11) Att: 60,000

VALLADOLID 3 (Fonseca 46, Baraja 47, Fernando 53)
REAL SOCIEDAD 0 Att: 19,000

RAYO VALLECANO 1 (Guilherme 61)
SALAMANCA 4 (Claudio 50, 60, 64, Ayucar 84) Att: 8,000

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

WEEKEND

ATLETICO MADRID 1 (Simeone 45)
LA CORUNA 0 Att: 45,000

BARCELONA 4 (Toni 9, De la Pena 64, Ocar 80, Tabuenca og 87)
ATHLETIC BILBAO 1 (Carlos Garcia 53) Att: 90,000

SEVILLA 0
ESPANYOL 3 (Lardin 15, Urzalz 36, 55) Att: 60,180

VALENCIA 1 (Galvez 40)
REAL BETIS 1 (Pier 25) Att: 47,000

ALBACETE 0
REAL ZARAGOZA 1 (Poyet 81) Att:14,000

COMPOSTELA 4 (Christensen 11, 72, Jose Ramon 43, 90)
REAL OVIEDO 1 (Dubovsky 64) Att: 11,000

RACING SANTANDER 0
VALLADOLID 0 Att: 14,000

REAL SOCIEDAD 1 (Karpin pen 65)
MERIDA 2 (Pogodin 37, Prieto 72) Att: 20,000

SALAMANCA 0
REAL MADRID 2 (Zamorano 15, Amavisca 72) Att: 21,000

SPORTING GIJON 1 (Sabou 46)
CELTA VIGO 0 Att: 21,500

TENERIFE 2 (Jokanovic 56, Felipe 72)
VALLECANO 2 (Andrijasevic 75, Aquino 82) Att: 15,000

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

WEEKEND

REAL VALLADOLID 0
ATLETICO MADRID 1 (Simeone 52) Att: 23,000

ATHLETIC BILBAO 0
ESPANYOL 0 Att: 30,000

BARCELONA 1 (Prosinecki pen 83)
VALENCIA 0 Att: 90,000

CELTA VIGO 4 (Gudelj 21, 86, 90,Carlos 82)
SEVILLA 0. Att: 17,000

LA CORUNA 1 (Radchenko 24)
SPORTING GIJON 0 Att: 25,000

MERIDA 3 (Sinval 15, 31, Reyes 19)
SANTANDER 1 (Alberto 12) Att: 12,000

VALLECANO 2 (Guilherme 57, Onesimo 75)
ALBACETE 0 Att: 7,500

REAL BETIS 5 (Jami 17, Canas 42, Pier 50, 57 Oscar Arpon 89)
COMPOSTELA 0 Att: 40,000

REAL OVIEDO 2 (Carlos 40, Dubovsky pen 69)
SALAMANCA 2 (Barbara 53, Del Solar 62) Att: 16,000

REAL MADRID 2 (Esnaider 10, Sandro 85)
TENERIFE 0 Att: 90,000

REAL ZARAGOZA 1 (Poyet 69)
REAL SOCIEDAD 2 (Albisteguí 18, De Paula 90) Att: 23,000

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

WEEKEND

ATLETICO MADRID 1 (Dani 49)
MERIDA 1 (Prieto 1) Att: 50,000

COMPOSTELA 2 (Christensen 76 pen, Che
BARCELONA 1 (Kodro 24) Att: 12,000

ESPANYOL 2 (Lardin 20, 59)
CELTA VIGO 2 (Gudelj 74 pen, Sanchez
Att: 30,000

VALENCIA 3 (Camarasa 22, Galvez 23, Mijatovic 77)
ATHLETIC BILBAO 1 (Guerrero 85) Att:

ALBACETE 1 (Maqueda 87)
REAL MADRID 1 (Raul 44) Att: 16,000

SALAMANCA 2 (Stosic 15 og, Barabara
REAL BETIS 1 (Pier 20) Att: 18,300

SPORTING GIJON 4 (Hugo Perez 21, Aitor
Eloy 59, Julio Salinas)
VALLADOLID 2 (Fernando 2, Torres Gomez
35) Att: 22,000

SEVILLA 0
LA CORUNA 0 Att: 38,000

SANTANDER 0
REAL ZARAGOZA 0 Att: 14,000

TENERIFE 3 (Julio Llorente 13, 78, Felipe
REAL OVIEDO 3 (Manel 54, Oli 68, Dubovs
90) Att: 16,000

REAL SOCIEDAD 2 (De Paula 13, Imanol
VALLECANO 1 (Andrijasevic 60 pen) Att:
18,000

SPAIN

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Atletico Madrid	10	8	2	0	20	3	
Barcelona	10	7	2	1	25	8	
Espanyol	10	6	3	1	16	6	
Compostela	10	6	1	3	14	10	
Valencia	10	5	2	3	14	12	
Sporting Gijon	10	5	1	4	17	12	
Real Betis	10	4	4	2	15	11	
Real Madrid	10	4	3	3	19	13	
La Coruna	10	4	2	4	15	11	
Real Zaragoza	10	4	2	4	6	10	
Athletic Bilbao	10	3	4	3	11	12	
Tenerife	10	3	4	3	13	17	
Real Sociedad	10	4	1	5	12	16	
Merida	10	2	5	3	10	11	
Albacete	10	3	2	5	13	18	
Valladolid	10	2	3	5	10	12	
Salamanca	10	2	3	5	9	13	
Celta Vigo	10	2	3	5	11	16	
Real Oviedo	10	2	3	5	12	18	
Santander	10	2	3	5	9	20	
Sevilla	10	1	4	5	7	17	
Rayo Vallecano	10	2	1	7	11	22	

SWITZERLAND

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

WEEKEND

AARAU 1 (Ratinho 38)
LUCERNE 1 (Aleksandrov 29) Att: 5,700

BASEL 1 (Yakin 36)
YOUNG BOYS 0 Att: 15,000

GRASSHOPPER 2 (Sublat 2, Koller 43)
SION 0 Att: 4,400

LAUSANNE 3 (Rehn 26 pen, 51, Thurre
LUGANO 0 Att: 2,300

NEUCHATEL XAMAX 1 (Kunz 70)
SERVETTE 0 Att: 8,800

ST GALLEN 1 (Brunner 5)
FC ZURICH 0 Att: 6,000

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

WEEKEND

LUGANO 2 (Erceg 38, Sinval 76)
YOUNG BOYS 0 Att: 3,000

BASLE 0
NEUCHATEL XAMAX 2 (Moldovan 43,
Drakopoulos 84) Att: 13,000

SION 3 (Quentin 28, Chassot 73, Nemecek
SERVETTE 1 (Neuville 76) Att: 9,500

FC ZURICH 0
LUCERNE 1 (Wolf 81) Att: 4,500

AARAU 1 (Skrzypczak 79)
GRASSHOPPER 1 (Comisetti 50) Att:

LAUSANNE 0
ST GALLEN 0 Att: 3,200

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

WEEKEND

LUCERNE 3 (Aleksandrov 34, Fink 56,
Kurniawan 85)
BASLE 1 (Zuffi pen 64) Att: 16,000

NEUCHATEL XAMAX 4 (Moldovan 5,
53, 72)
LUGANO 0 Att: 8,100

ST GALLEN 3 (Milton 34, Leandro 87, [illegible])
SION 2 Att: 8,000

SERVETTE 1 (Neuville 45)
LAUSANNE 1 (Biaggi 32) Att: 6,000

YOUNG BOYS 0
AARAU 4 (Fatinho pen 13, 67, Christ 26, [illegible] 88) Att: 1,800

GRASSHOPPER 2 (Geiger 18, Ibrahim 84)
FC ZURICH 0 Att: 7,550

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

WEEKEND

GRASSHOPPER 1 (Ali Ibrahim 77)
LUGANO 0 Att: 2,850

ST GALLEN 4 (Frick 12, Brunner 30, Diallo 38, 92)
SERVETTE 0 Att: 9,200

BASEL 0
FC ZURICH 3 (Guntensperger 10, Ganbino 44, Castillo 90) Att: 13,500

NEUCHATEL XAMAX 1 (Jeanneret 33)
LUCERNE 1 (Pink 9) Att: 11,600

AARAU 0
SION 1 (Mirandinha 60) Att: 4,500

LAUSANNE 2 (Fryand 4, Rehn 66)
YOUNG BOYS 0 Att: 3,000

SWITZERLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Grasshopper	15	11	2	2	29	12	35
Neuchatel	16	10	2	4	31	17	32
Sion	16	10	1	5	26	21	31
Lucerne	16	8	5	3	26	19	29
St Gallen	16	6	6	4	24	16	24
Lausanne	16	5	6	5	20	16	21
Aarau	16	5	4	7	24	21	19
Basle	16	6	1	9	15	24	19
Lugano	15	4	4	7	15	26	16
Servette	16	3	5	8	19	24	14
FC Zurich	16	2	5	9	11	26	11
Young Boys	16	2	5	9	8	26	11

ALBANIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Partizani	9	6	1	2	20	9	15
Flamurtari	9	6	1	2	12	5	15
Tirana	9	5	2	2	13	8	15
Teuta	9	5	2	2	18	10	13
Besa	9	4	3	2	7	5	12
Olimpik	9	4	2	3	13	9	11
Shkumbini	9	3	4	2	11	8	10
Vllaznia	9	3	3	3	7	7	10
Elbasani	9	3	3	3	5	8	10
Sopoti	9	4	1	4	11	11	9
Skenderbeu	9	4	1	4	10	13	9
Albpetrol	9	3	3	3	7	7	9
Tomori	9	2	4	3	7	8	8
Kastrioti	9	2	3	4	10	13	7
Beselidhja	9	3	1	5	5	12	7
Apollonia	9	1	4	4	7	13	6
Shqiponja	9	1	3	5	5	12	5
Laci	9	1	2	6	8	18	4

BULGARIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Levski Sofia	11	8	2	1	15	4	26
Slavia Sofia	11	8	1	2	19	4	25
Lok. Sofia	11	7	2	2	23	8	23
Neftohimik	11	7	2	2	22	12	23
Spartak Varna	11	6	2	3	23	16	20
Dobrudzha	11	6	1	4	11	11	19
Levski Kustendil	11	4	4	3	13	9	16
CSKA Sofia	11	4	4	3	15	14	16
Etur Tirnovo	11	4	2	5	5	9	14
Montana	11	3	4	4	10	10	13
Lok. Plovdiv	11	4	1	6	8	15	13
Botev Plovdiv	11	3	1	7	12	16	10
Rakovski	11	3	0	8	12	19	9
Lovech	11	1	5	5	6	12	8
Shumen	11	1	3	7	6	21	6
Spartak Plovdiv	11	1	2	8	6	26	5

CROATIA

Group A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Croatia	11	9	1	1	25	5	28
Osijek	11	7	1	3	22	10	22
Hajduk	11	6	3	2	22	10	21
Varteks	11	6	1	4	14	11	19
Cibalia	11	4	3	4	15	19	15
Segesta	11	4	2	5	20	20	14
Sibenik	11	4	2	5	16	16	14
Marsonia	11	4	1	6	10	18	13
Rijeka	11	3	2	6	18	24	11
Istra	11	2	4	5	7	19	10
Zagreb	11	2	3	6	11	18	9
Inker	11	2	3	6	14	24	9

CYPRUS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
APOEL Nicosia	5	5	0	0	16	2	15
Omonia Nicosia	5	4	1	0	14	3	13
AEK Larnaca	5	4	0	1	11	6	12
Anorthosis	5	3	1	1	6	5	10
Apollon Limassol	5	3	0	2	8	4	9
Paralimni	5	2	1	2	9	3	8
Ethnikos Ahna	5	2	1	2	8	8	7
Salamina	5	2	0	3	5	9	6
Aris Limassol	5	1	2	2	6	6	5
Alki Larnaca	5	1	2	2	8	11	5
Evaghoras	5	1	1	3	17	16	4
AEL Limassol	5	1	0	4	17	14	3
Olympiakos	5	0	1	4	3	10	1
Omonia Aradippou	5	0	1	4	13	16	1

CZECH REPUBLIC

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Slovan Liberec	12	7	2	3	16	11	23
Sparta Prague	11	6	3	2	24	12	21
Sigma Olomouc	12	6	3	3	21	13	21
Petra Drnovice	11	6	3	2	24	17	21
Union Cheb	12	6	2	4	19	18	20
Slavia Prague	11	6	1	4	25	15	19
Viktoria Zizkov	11	5	4	2	18	9	19
FK Jablonec	12	5	3	4	16	13	18
Ceske Budejovice	12	6	0	6	17	19	18
Kaucuk Opava	12	5	2	5	12	12	17
FC Boby Brno	12	5	2	5	17	19	17
Viktoria Plzen	12	5	1	6	16	16	16
Banik Ostrava	12	3	2	7	17	20	11
SK Hradec Kralove	12	2	3	7	10	22	9
Uherske Hradiste	12	1	4	7	10	29	7
Svit Zlin	12	1	3	8	2	19	6

DENMARK

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AGF Aarhus	16	10	5	1	32	11	35
Brondby	16	9	3	4	36	22	30
Lyngby	16	8	4	4	32	16	28
OB Odense	16	8	4	4	25	16	28
AaB Alborg	16	8	3	5	33	16	27
FC Copenhagen	16	7	4	5	29	23	25
Silkeborg	16	5	4	7	16	23	19
Vejle	16	4	6	6	17	25	18
Naestved	16	4	4	8	20	37	16
Viborg	16	4	4	8	24	43	16
Ikast	16	3	4	9	14	31	13
Herfolge	16	3	1	12	19	34	10

FINLAND

FINAL TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Haka	26	18	5	3	56	17	59
Mypa	26	16	5	5	45	20	53
HJK	26	14	10	2	44	18	52
FC Jazz	26	12	6	8	43	29	42
FF Jaro	26	11	5	10	37	32	38
TPS	26	10	6	10	33	32	36
FC Ilves	26	9	7	10	36	39	34
FinnPa	26	9	5	12	40	40	32
RoPS	26	8	8	10	29	30	32
VPS	26	10	2	14	26	34	32
MP	26	7	7	12	23	35	28
TPV	26	6	6	14	33	48	24
Kuuysi	26	6	5	15	23	50	23
Ponnistus	26	6	3	17	19	63	21

GREECE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Olympiakos	8	6	2	0	18	4	20
Panathinaikos	8	6	2	0	13	5	20
AEK Athens	8	6	1	1	25	7	19
OFI Crete	8	5	1	2	24	14	16
Ionikos	8	4	2	2	15	13	14
Iraklis	8	4	1	3	16	13	13
PAOK Salonika	8	3	3	2	12	10	12
Edessaikos	8	3	3	2	14	13	12
Xanthi	8	3	3	2	10	10	12
Panahaiki	8	4	0	4	11	18	12
Apollon	8	2	3	3	9	8	9
Kalamata	8	2	3	3	16	16	9
Aris Salonika	8	2	2	4	8	11	8
Paniliakos	8	2	2	4	9	13	8
Athinaikos	8	2	1	5	7	14	7
Panionios	8	1	3	4	12	16	6
Ethnikos	8	0	1	7	5	21	1
Larissa	8	0	1	7	4	22	1

HUNGARY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BVSC-Dreher	12	9	2	1	24	10	29
Ferencvaros	11	9	0	2	23	9	27
Ujpest TE	11	7	2	2	21	11	23
DVSC	12	6	3	3	14	12	21
MTK	12	5	3	4	25	15	18
Csepel SC	12	5	3	4	20	18	18
Vasas	11	5	3	3	14	12	18
Vac FC	11	5	2	5	22	19	17
Kispest-Honved	11	4	4	3	16	10	16
Stadler FC	12	2	7	3	15	17	13
Gyori ETO FC	12	3	4	5	16	23	13
Zalaegerszeg	11	3	3	6	15	22	12
Bekescsaba	11	3	2	7	16	23	11
Pecs MFC	11	3	2	7	12	17	8
Parmalat FC	12	2	1	9	11	30	7
Haladas VSE	11	1	3	8	10	28	6

Pecs MFC deducted 3pts.

ISRAEL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Mac Haifa	6	5	1	0	13	4	16
Betar Jerusalem	6	5	1	0	14	6	16
Mac Tel Aviv	6	5	0	1	15	6	15
Hap Haifa	6	4	1	1	15	6	13
Hap Tel Aviv	6	4	1	1	9	6	13
Hap Beersheva	6	2	3	1	9	7	9
Hap Petah Tikva	6	2	3	1	7	5	9
Betar Tel Aviv	6	2	1	3	10	10	7
Hap Beit She'an	6	2	1	3	8	10	7
Mac Petah Tikva	6	1	1	3	10	16	7
Mac Jaffa	6	2	0	4	7	13	6
Bnei Yehuda	6	1	2	3	8	13	5
Zafririm Holon	6	1	1	4	9	13	4
Mac Herzliya	6	1	1	4	3	8	4
Ir Rishon	6	1	0	5	4	9	3
Hap Kfar Sava	6	0	1	5	5	14	1

NORWAY

FINAL TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rosenborg	26	19	5	2	78	29	62
Molde	26	14	5	7	60	47	47
Bodo/Glimt	26	12	7	7	65	43	43
Lillestrom	26	11	8	7	50	36	41
Viking	26	12	4	10	55	42	40
Tromso	26	11	5	10	53	42	38
VIF Fotball	26	11	6	9	47	44	37
Start	26	11	1	14	51	52	34
Stabaek	26	9	6	11	36	40	33
Brann	26	9	5	12	40	50	32
Kongsvinger	26	7	8	11	37	54	29
Hodd	26	8	4	14	38	57	28
HamKam	26	8	3	15	33	66	27
Strindheim	26	4	5	17	36	77	17

POLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Widzew Lodz	13	11	2	0	35	7	35
Legia Warsaw	14	11	2	1	35	12	35
Stal Mielec	14	7	1	6	16	21	22
Stomil Olsztyn	13	6	4	3	13	10	22
Lech Poznan	14	6	3	5	22	15	21
Amica Wronki	14	6	2	6	15	15	20
R. Czestochowa	14	6	2	6	15	16	20
Hutnik Krakow	14	6	1	7	23	29	19
Pogon Szczecin	14	6	1	7	15	18	19
GKS Katowice	14	5	4	5	15	13	19
LKS Lodz	14	5	3	6	16	18	18
Zaglebie Lubin	14	4	5	5	15	13	17
Slask Wroclaw	14	4	5	5	13	15	17
Gornik Zabrze	14	4	5	5	20	23	17
Olimpia Poznan	14	5	2	7	15	22	17
Siarka Tarnobrzeg	14	2	6	6	11	21	12
Sokol Pniewy	14	2	4	8	12	26	10
GKS Belchatow	14	2	2	10	13	25	8

ROMANIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Steaua	13	10	2	1	34	13	32
Farul Constanta	13	7	2	4	23	15	23
Univ. Craiova	13	7	2	4	19	12	23
Dinamo	13	7	2	4	17	14	23
Rapid	13	7	1	5	28	16	22
Gloria Bistrita	13	7	0	6	17	15	21
Ceahlaul	13	6	3	4	14	16	21
National	13	6	2	5	21	22	20
Inter Sibiu	13	5	2	6	15	14	17
Univ. Cluj	13	5	1	7	18	18	16
Otelul Galati	13	5	1	7	15	16	16
Politehnica Iasi	13	5	1	7	16	28	16
Sptl. Studentesc	13	4	3	6	14	15	15
Petrolul Ploiesti	13	4	3	6	15	18	15
FC Brasov	13	4	3	6	12	23	15
AS Bacau	13	5	0	8	15	27	15
Arges Pitesti	13	4	2	7	16	21	14
Poli. Timisoara	13	3	2	8	19	25	11

RUSSIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sptk Vladikavkaz	29	22	4	3	63	21	70
Lok. Moscow	29	20	4	5	51	22	64
Moscow Spartak	29	18	6	5	72	24	60
Moscow Dynamo	29	16	7	6	44	28	55
Moscow Torpedo	29	16	7	6	39	28	55
CSKA Moscow	29	15	5	9	54	33	50
Rotor Volgograd	29	11	7	11	61	47	40
Kamaz	29	10	7	12	34	30	37
Uralmash	29	11	3	15	41	46	36
Tekstilshchik	29	9	7	13	35	37	33
Chernomorets	29	10	2	17	30	59	32
Zhemchuzhina	29	8	4	17	35	67	28
Lok. Novgorod	29	5	11	13	25	40	26
Rostselmash	29	7	4	18	32	56	25
Soviet Mos.	29	5	8	16	32	64	23
Dynamo-Gazovik	29	3	6	20	28	74	15

SLOVAKIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spartak Trnava	12	9	2	1	29	12	29
FC Kosice	12	8	0	4	24	15	24
JAS Bardejov	12	7	1	4	14	12	22
Tatran Presov	12	6	3	3	14	9	21
Slovan	11	5	5	1	20	7	20
Bystrica	12	5	4	3	17	16	19
Lok. Kosice	12	5	0	7	16	15	15
FC Nitra	11	3	3	5	13	17	12
Inter Bratislava	12	3	3	6	14	22	12
Dunajska Streda	12	4	0	8	21	30	12
Chemlon	12	3	2	7	16	19	11
Prievidza	12	0	3	9	7	31	3

SLOVENIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
HIT	12	7	2	3	20	9	23
Mura	12	6	5	1	17	8	23
Rudar	12	6	4	2	18	9	22
Biostart	12	5	4	3	22	17	19
Primorje	12	5	3	4	18	15	18
MAG Korotan	12	5	3	4	14	15	18
SCT Olimpija	12	5	2	5	32	17	17
Branik	12	2	5	5	12	13	11
Beltinci	12	1	5	6	5	17	8
Izola	12	1	1	10	3	39	4

SWEDEN

FINAL TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
IFK Gothenburg	26	12	10	4	43	20	46
Helsingborg	26	12	6	8	42	46	42
Halmstad	26	11	8	7	40	32	41
Malmo	26	9	12	5	32	28	39
Orebro	26	10	8	8	35	29	38
Djurgarden	26	10	8	8	33	33	38
Orgryte	26	9	8	9	22	26	35
AIK Stockholm	26	7	11	8	34	31	32
Degerfors	26	7	11	8	32	45	32
Oster Vaxjo	26	5	13	8	41	41	28
IFK Norrkoping	26	7	7	12	28	44	28
Hammarby	26	6	8	12	33	40	26
Vastra Frolunda	26	5	10	11	35	45	25

TURKEY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Trabzonspor	10	8	2	0	27	8	26
Fenerbahce	10	7	3	0	18	5	24
Galatasaray	10	7	0	3	18	12	21
Besiktas	10	6	2	2	5	15	20
Bursaspor	10	5	2	2	6	15	17
Antalyaspor	10	4	3	3	18	21	15
Samsunspor	10	4	1	5	18	15	13
Gaziantepspor	10	3	4	3	12	9	13
Genclerbirligi	10	3	4	3	16	17	13
Denizlispor	10	3	4	3	10	12	13
Kocaelispor	10	3	4	3	12	16	13
Karsiyaka	10	4	0	6	11	21	12
Ankaragucu	10	3	2	5	11	18	11
Eskisehirspor	10	3	1	6	15	20	10
Vanspor	10	2	2	6	6	13	8
Kayserispor	10	1	4	5	11	17	7
Istanbulspor	10	2	1	7	14	23	7
Altay	10	2	1	7	10	21	7

WALES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Newtown	10	7	1	2	16	6	22
Conwy Utd	10	6	3	1	29	16	21
Barry Town	10	6	2	2	21	9	20
Ebbw Vale	12	6	2	4	18	16	20
Connah's Quay	10	5	4	1	28	17	19
Holywell T	11	6	1	4	23	21	19
Bangor City	11	5	3	3	20	15	18
Flint Town	11	5	2	4	18	13	17
Cwmbran Town	11	4	4	3	21	13	16
Inter Cardiff	11	4	3	4	20	17	15
Llansantffraid	12	4	3	5	21	20	15
Caernarfon Town	12	3	6	3	19	22	15
Afan Lido FC	10	4	2	4	12	13	14
Ton Pentre AFC	11	3	3	5	15	19	12
Caersws FC	11	4	0	7	22	36	12
Rhyl FC	10	3	2	5	9	16	11
Aberystwyth T.	10	3	1	6	18	21	10
CPD Porthmadog	10	3	1	6	17	22	10
Briton Ferry Ath	10	3	1	6	15	30	10
Cemaes Bay FC	10	2	3	5	17	24	9
Llanelli AFC	11	2	1	8	16	29	17

INTERNATIONALS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

Belo Horizonte – Intl friendly

BRAZIL 2 (Marques 4, Savio 19)
ROMANIA 2 (Vasc 18, Butoiu 45)
HT: 2-2. **Att:** 9,000. **Ref:** Silva Rezende (Bra)
Brazil: Dida (Danrlei 20) – Bruno Carvalho, Adriano, Narciso, Ze Roberto – Ze Elias, Amaral, Souza, Edilson – Marques, Savio.
Romania: Blid – Zegrean, Glavan, Cotora, Salagean – Zanc (Popa 88), Vasc, Barbu, Iftodi – Butoiu (Zotinca 84), Kovacs.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Johannesburg – Intl friendly

SOUTH AFRICA 3 (Augustine 52, Mudau 70, Khumalo 86)
MOZAMBIQUE 2 (Cachela 25, Arnaldo 65)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 40,000. **Ref:** Williams (SA)
S Africa: Crowley – Motaung, Tovey, Fish, Motale – Buthelezi, Makalakalane, Khumalo, Mkhalele (Moeti 46) – Mudau, Augustine (Bartlett 81).
Mozambique: Rui Evora – Faife (Joao Chissano 54), Jose Augusto, Luis, Pinto Barros – Antoninho, Nana, Malo, Riquito – Cachela (Artur 64), Arnaldo.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4

Helsinki – friendly

FINLAND 0
TURKEY 0
Att: 3,150.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7

Yerevan – Euro Chp gp 2

ARMENIA 0
BELGIUM 2 (Nilis 28, 39)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 5,000. **Ref:** Mitrev (Bul)
Armenia: Abramyan – Sukiasyan, V Khachatryan, A Khachatryan, Hovsepyan – Gspian, A Petrosyan, Grigoryan (V Avetisyan 46), Mhitryan (Markaryan 70) – Shahgelsyan, A Avetisyan.
Belgium: De Wilde – Genaux, Crasson, de Boeck, Smidts – Staelens, Karagiannis (Vermant 80), Scifo, Nilis – de Bilde (Goosens 64), Schepens.

Minsk – Euro Chp gp 5

BYELORUSSIA 0
CZECH REPUBLIC 2 (Frydek 25, Berger 84)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 20,000. **Ref:** Frisk (Swe)
Byelorussia: Chantolosov – Taikov, Gourenko, Dovnar, Rodnenok – Zhuravel, Guerasimets, Youssipets (Baranov 74), Belkevich – Kachuro, Kachentsev.
Czech Rep: Kouba – Kadlec, Repka, Nedved (P Berger 73) – Hapal, Latal, Nemecek (Hornak 15), Frydek (Poborsky 87), Nemec – Drulak, Kuka.

Sofia – Euro Chp gp 7

BULGARIA 3 (Lechkov 15, Kostadinov 80, 82)
ALBANIA 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 35,000. **Ref:** Hirviniemi (Fin)

Bulgaria: Mikhailov – Kremenliev, Ivanov, Tsvetanov, Yankov, Kiryakov (Borimirov 87), Kostadonov (Sirakov 85), Stoichkov, Penev, Balakov, Lechkov.
Albania: Strakosha – Zmijani, Malko, Xhumba, Shulku, Dema, Kushta, Bellai, Kola, Rraklli, Abazi (Demollari 85).

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8

Split – Euro Chp gp 4
CROATIA 1 (Suker 47 pen)
ITALY 1 (Albertini 29)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 40,000. **Ref:** Uilenberg (Hol)
Croatia: Ladic – Jurcevic (Kozniku 46), Mladenovic, Stimac, Jerkan, Pavlicic, Asanovic, Stanic, Suker, Boban, Boksic.
Italy: Bucci* – Ferrara (Benarrivo 83), Maldini, Di Matteo, Apolloni, Costacurta, Di Livio, Albertini, Del Piero (Crippa 86), Zola (Toldo 10), Ravanelli. * = *Bucci sent off, 10 mins.*

Leverkusen – Euro Chp gp 7
GERMANY 6 (Stroyenko og 16, Helmer 18, Sammer 24, 71, Moller 47, 61)
MOLDOVA 1 (Rebesha 82)
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 18,500. **Ref:** Ziober (Pol)
Germany: Kopke – Sammer (Worns 84), Babbel, Helmer, Eilts, Freund, Hassler, Moller (Scholl 78), Ziege, Herrlich (Bobic 64), Klinsmann.
Moldova: Ivanov – S Stroyenko – Secu, Kulibaba, Testimitanu – Rebeya, Belus, Nani (Miterev 59), Oprea (Gavriliuc 87) – Kurtianu, Kleshchenko.

Washington, Kennedy – friendly
UNITED STATES 4 (Lalas 35, Moore 48, Ramos 62, Lassiter 66)
SAUDI ARABIA 3 (Al-Jaber 7, Al-Mehalel 10, Al-Owairan 28 pen)
HT: 1-3. **Att:** 10,216. **Ref:** Dominguez (US)
US: Friedel – Agoos, Burns, Caligiuri, Lalas, Moore, Ramos, Reyna, Sorber, Trittschuh, Wegerle.
S Arabia: Al-Hadad – Al-Jahani, Al-Khilaiwi, Ahmed, Madani, Al-Temawi, Al-Jaber, Al-Owairan, Al-Mehalel, Al-Ruwished, Al-Dawod.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

Vienna – Euro Chp gp 6
AUSTRIA 1 (Stoger 21)
PORTUGAL 1 (Paulinho Santos 49)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 44,000. **Ref:** Levnikov (Rus)
Austria: Konsel – Schopp, Schoettel, Pfeffer, Feiersinger, Marasek, Pfeifenberger, Kuehbauer, Polster (Cerny 81), Herzog, Stoger.
Portugal: Vitor Baia – Nelson, Helder, Oceano, Jorge Costa, Paulo Sousa, Secretario (Sa Pinto 59), Joao Vieira Pinto (Folha 46), Domingos (Dominguez 72), Rui Costa, Paulinho Santos.

Limassol – Euro Chp gp 2
CYPRUS 1 (Agathocleous 90)
MACEDONIA 1 (Perides og 30)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 12,000. **Ref:** Irvine (Rer Ire).
Cyprus: Petrides – Costa, Pittas, Christodouliou, M Haralambous – Kalotheou (Agathokleous 64), Enkomitis (Papavasiliou 46), Sotiriou (Larkou 80) – Gogic, Savidis, Malekos.
Macedonia: Celeski – B Jovanovski, Karadzov, Markovski, Nikolovski – Z Jovanovski, Veselinovski (Christov 84), Ciric, Serafimovski (Karanfilovski 77) – Memedi, Savevski.

Copenhagen – Euro Chp gp 2
DENMARK 1 (Vilfort 47)
SPAIN 1 (Hierro 17 pen)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 40,260. **Ref:** Krondl (Cze)
Denmark: Schmeichel – Laursen, Hogh, Rieper, Risager, Piechnik, Vilfort, Steen Nielsen (Wieghorst 67), M Laudrup, Beck, P Rasmussen.
Spain: Zubizarreta – Belsue, Abelardo, Alkorta, Nadal, Sergi, Luis Enrique, Hierro, Caminero (Fran 30), Manjarin (Donato 62), Pizzi (Alfonso 46).

Tbilisi – Euro Chp gp 7
GEORGIA 2 (Arveladze 3, Kinkladze 48)
BULGARIA 1 (Stoichkov 88)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 45,000.
Georgia: Devadze – Koudinov, Chelia, Chikradze, Nemsadze – Goudoushauri (Beradze 46), Jamarauli, Kinkladze, A Arveladze (Kavelashvili 46) – S Arveladze, Gogichaishvili.
Bulgaria: Mikhailov – I Kiriakov, T Ivanov, Tzvetanov – Balakov, Borimirov, Lechkov, Sirakov – Kostadinov, L Penev.

Reykjavik – Euro Chp gp 3
ICELAND 0
TURKEY 0
Att: 2,308. **Ref:** Strampe (Ger).
Iceland: B Kristinsson – O Adolphsson, K Jonsson (A Gretarsson 43), Bergsson, Ingolfsson (Stefansson 70), R Kristinsson, Orlygsson, A Gudjonsson, Sverisson (B Gunnlaugsson 81), A Gunnlaugsson.
Turkey: Rustu – Alpay, Ogun, Osman, Recep, Oguz, Tugay, Abdullah, Sergen (Tolunay 74), Ertugrul, Hami.

Tel-Aviv, Bloomfield – Euro Chp gp 1
ISRAEL 2 (R Harazi 30, 50)
AZERBAIJAN 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 5,000. **Ref:** Detruche (Swi).
Israel: Ginsburg, Halfon, Amsalem, A Hazan, Shelah, Brumer, Banin, Revivo (Klinger 87), Berkowitz (Zohar 71), R Harazi (Atar 80), Rosenthal.
Azerbaijan: Zhidkov – Asadov, Haidov (Agaev 57), Ahmedov, Vagbadze, Abushev, Lychkin (Mamedov 70), Razaev (Kurbanov 70), Khadyrov, Suleymanov, Kasumov.

Vilnius – Euro Chp gp 4
LITHUANIA 5 (Maciulevicius 8, Shuka 13, 39, Slekys 44, Ivanauskas 61)
ESTONIA 0
HT: 4-0. **Att:** 2,500. **Ref:** Pauchard (Fra)
Lithuania: Stauce (Martinkenas 46), Kancelskis, Rimkus, Stonkus, Vainoras, Suika (Zvingilas 72), Maciulevicius, Ivanauskas, Baltusnikas, Vencevicius, Slekys (Jankauskas 46).
Estonia: Poom – Olesk, Lepa (Reim 46), T Kallaste, Lell (Kristal 46; Krom 72), Zelinski, Lindmaa, R Kallaste, Linnumae, Ragala, Oper.

Vaduz – Euro Chp gp 6
LIECHTENSTEIN 0
NORTHERN IRELAND 4 (O'Neil 36, McMahon 49, Quinn 55, Gray 72)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 1,100. **Ref:** L Michel (Slovak)
Liechtenstein: Oehry – Hefti, Frick (Hanselmann 78), Hilti (Ospelt 68), Hasler, Klaunzer, Telser, Stocker (Sele 45), Schadler, Zech, Oehri.
N Ireland: Fettis (Wood 76) – Lomas, Worthington, Hill, Hunter, Lennon, McMahon (McGibbon 81), O'Neill, Quinn, Gray, Hughes (Rowland 89).

Luxembourg – Euro Chp gp 5
LUXEMBOURG 0
BYELORUSSIA 0
Att: 4,500. **Ref:** Durkin (Eng).
Luxembourg: Koch – Vanek, Debille, Birsens, Strasser – Saibene, Hellers, Weis, Holtz (Lamborelle 90) – Langers (Theis 81), Morocutti (Cardoni 72).
Byelorussia: Chantalosov – Gourenko, Dovnar, Rodnenok, Taikov – Youssipets, Zhuravel, Baranov, Belkevich – Kashentsev (Vergeitchik 90), Kachuro.

Valletta – Euro Chp gp 5
MALTA 0
HOLLAND 4 (Overmars 52, 61, 65, Seedorf 80)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 8,000. **Ref:** Milton Nielsen (Den)
Malta: Cluett – Buhagiar, Carabott, Woods, Attard (Galea 71), Zammit, Busuttil, Saliba, Agius (Sant Fournier 5), Laferla, Brincat.
Holland: Van der Sar – Reizinger, Numan, Blind (Trustfull 71), F de Boer, Richard Witschge, Seedorf, Overmars, Kluivert, R de Boer, Mulder (Helder 64).

Dublin – Euro Chp gp 6
REP IRELAND 2 (Aldridge 61 pen, 64)
LATVIA 1 (Rimkus 78)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 33,000. **Ref:** Fernandez Marin (Spa).
Rep Ireland: A Kelly – G Kelly, Phelan, Babb, McGrath, Kenna, Townsend, McAteer, Quinn, Aldridge (D Kelly 80; Kennedy 85), Staunton.
Latvia: Karavajevs – Troickis, Astafievs, Zemlinskis, Shevljakovs, Stepanov, Ivanovs, Zeiberlins, Rimkus, Babicevs (Jelisejevs 75), Zakresevskis.

Bucharest – Euro Chp gp 1
ROMANIA 1 (Lacatus 51)
FRANCE 3 (Karembeu 28, Djorkaeff 42, Zidane 75)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 25,000. **Ref:** Pairetto (Ita)
Romania: Stelea – Petrescu, Prodan, Mihali (Lupu 46), Lupescu, Popescu, Lacatus, Dumitrescu (Vladoiu 46), Selymes, Hagi (Panduru 62), Munteanu.
France: Barthez – Angloma, Di Meco, Karembeu, Leboeuf, Guerin, Deschamps, Desailly, Djorkaeff (Lizarazu 74), Zidane (Thuram 83), Dugarry (Madar 62).

Moscow – Euro Chp gp 8
RUSSIA 2 (Kovtun 36, Onopko 71)
GREECE 1 (Tsalouhides 64)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 65,000. **Ref:** Graber (Aut)
Russia: Kharin – Kovtun, Nikiforov, Tsimbalar (Radchenko 61), Khlestov, Karpin (Shalimov 76), Onopko, Kulkov, Mostovoi, Yuran (Kiryakov 46), Kolyvanov.
Greece: Mihopulos – Apostolakis, Ouzunidis, Kalitzakis (Dabizas 46), Tsaluhidis, Zagorakis, Alexandris, Kasapis, Batista (Mahlas 71), Tsartas (Georgatos 46), Donis.

Serravalle – Euro Chp gp 8
SAN MARINO 1 (Valentini 52)
FAROE ISLANDS 3 (Todi Jonsson 42, 45, 59)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 1,000. **Ref:** Beck (Lie)
San Marino: S Muccioli – Valentini, Gennari, Matteoni (Peverani 70), Valentini, Guerra, Manzaroli, M Mazza (Mularoni 57), Bacciocchi, Francini, Montagna.
Faroes: Knudsen – Andreas Hansen, Jens Hansen, Rasmussen, Henning Jarnskor (Bertholdsen 85), A Morkore, M Jarnskor, Ossur Hansen, Muller, Todi Jonsson (John Peterson 73), Dam.

Bratislava – Euro Chp gp 1
SLOVAKIA 4 (Dubovsky 32 pen, Jancula 68, Ujlaky 77, Simon 83)
POLAND 1 (Juskowiak 19)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 11,000. **Ref:** Monteiro Coroado (Por)
Slovakia: Molnar – Tittel, Karhan, Zeman, Kinder, Balis, Juriga (Ujlaky 71), Simon, Moravcik, Jancula (Bochnovic 87), Dubovsky.
Poland: Wozniak – Zielinski, Lapinski, Kozminski (Bednarz 58), Waldoch, Iwan, P Swierczewski, Bukalski, Kosecki, Juskowiak, Baluszynski (S Czereszewski 79).

Ljubljana – Euro Chp gp 4
SLOVENIA 3 (Udovic 50, 90, Zahovic 73)
UKRAINE 2 (Skrypnyk 24, Guseinov 44)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 11,000.
Slovenia: Zupan – Englaro, Galic, Milanic, Ceh, Novak, Zahovic, Florjancic (Cvikl 68), Gliha, Rudonja, Udovic.
Ukraine: Suslov – Luzhny, Shmatovalenko (Polourin 88), Skrypnyk, Zhabchenko, Bezhenar, Golovko, Kalitvintsev, Duennady, Goussin (Nagornyak 51), Huseynov.

Zurich – Euro Chp gp 3
SWITZERLAND 3 (Turkyilmaz 23, Sforza 56, Ohrel 89)
HUNGARY 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 20,000. **Ref:** Agius (Mal)
Switzerland: Pascolo – Hottiger, Henchoz, Geiger, Quentin – Ohrel, Sforza, Yakin, Fournier (Bickel 81) – Knup (Bonvin 89), Turkyilmaz (A Sutter 85).
Hungary: Hajdu – Telek, Lipcsei, Halmai, Mracsko, Nyilas (Klasz 64), Simon (Arany 24), Illes (Monos 64), Urban, I Vincze, Jovan.

Cardiff – Euro Chp gp 7
WALES 1 (Helmer og 78)
GERMANY 2 (Melville og 75, Klinsmann 80)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 25,000. **Ref:** Craciunescu (Rom).
Wales: Southall – Jenkins (Mardon 71), Bowen, Symons, Melville, Pembridge (Hodges 82), Horne, Saunders, Blake (Williams 82), Speed, Giggs.
Germany: Kopke – Babbel (Worns 36), Ziege, Freund, Helmer, Sammer, Moller, Eilts, Klinsmann, Hassler, Herrlich (Kuntz 73).

Buenos Aires – friendly
ARGENTINA 0
COLOMBIA 0
Att: 25,000. **Ref:** Dluzniewski (Uru)
Argentina: Burgos – Zanetti, Trotta, Fabbri, Chamot – Basualdo, Astrada, Borelli (Bassedas 83), Ortega – Delgado, Rambert (Castillo 73).
Colombia: Calero (Mondragon 46) – Cabrera, Bermudez, Mendoza, Perez (Gonzalez 84) – Serna, Gutierrez, Quinones (Mackenzie 46), Valderrama – Valenciano (Leon 46), Valencia.

Salvador – friendly
BRAZIL 2 (Ronaldo 17, 36)
URUGUAY 0
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** Jose Torres Cadena (Col)
Brazil: Carlos Germano – Cafu, Marcio Santos (Narciso 2), Andre Cruz, Roberto Carlos (Ze Roberto 69), Mauro Silva, Giovanni, Amaral, Rivaldo, Bebeto, Ronaldo (Savio 46).
Uruguay: Ferro – Mendez, Herrera, Moas, Montero (Adinolfi 46), Gutierrez (Gonzalez 65), Saralegui (Vanzini 85), Poyet, Bengoechea, Martinez (Magallanes 80), O'Neil (Abeijon 75).

Concepcion – friendly
CHILE 2 (Rozental 47 pen, Salas 67)
CANADA 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 11,700. **Ref:** Castrilli (Arg).
Chile: Tapia – Acuna, Fuentes (Lizama 74), Margas – Mendoza (Lopresti 46), Galdames (Valencia 46), Parraguez, Rojas – Estay (Muena 78), Rozental, Salas (Avila 69).
Canada: Dolan (Onstad 46) – Diotte (MacDonald 60), Limniatis, Watson, Fletcher – Holmes (Oliveiro 60), De Santis, Augner, Kousmanis – Thomson, Marinaro (Biello 46).

Los Angeles – friendly
MEXICO 2 (Suarez 78, Lozano 87)
SAUDI ARABIA 1 (Vidrio og 23)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 40,389.
Mexico: Navarro – Higareda, Vidrio, Suarez (Ayala 79), Taboada (Padilla 55), Lopez, Gallega (Lozano 73), Ramirez (Ruiz 87), Garcia, Guzman, Hernandez (Del Angel 87).
S Arabia: Al-Deayea – Ahmed Madani, Al-Khilaiwi, Al-Dawod, Al-Jahani, Ahmed Esca, Al-Massari, Al-Temawi, Owairan (Al-Dossari 53), Mehalel, Al-Jaber (Al-Gheshayan 71).

Oslo – friendly
NORWAY 0
ENGLAND 0
Att: 21,006. **Ref:** K-E Nilsson (Swe). **Att:** 21,006.
Norway: Thorstvedt – Loken, Johnson, Bjornebye, Berg, Flo, Bohinen, Leonhardsen (Solbakken 63), Fjortoft (Brattbakk 80), Rekca, Jakobson.
England: Seaman – Neville, Pearce, Redknapp, Adams, Pallister, Barmby (Sheringham 68), Lee, Shearer, McManaman, Wise (Stone 68).

Stockholm – friendly
SWEDEN 2 (Petterson 31, Schwarz 35)
SCOTLAND 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 19,121. **Ref:** Diaz Vega (Spa).
Sweden: B Andersson – Lucic (Kamark 89), P Andersson, Bjorklund, M Nilsson, Schwarz, Alexandersson, Gudmundsson (Pringle 70), Petterson, K Andersson (Erlingmark 80), Brolin.
Scotland: Leighton (Goram 73) – McKimmie, Boyd, Calderwood, Hendry, McLaren, Burley (McKinlay 46), Robertson (Nevin 73), McGinlay (Jess 46), McAllister (Jackson 60), Collins.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21

Tashkent – Afro-Asian Cup, 1st leg
UZBEKISTAN 2 (Kasimov 70, Fedorov 85)
NIGERIA 3 (Oliseh 10, Ikpeba 65, Kanu 71)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 15,000.

Bamako – friendly
MALI 0
ALGERIA 2 (Zakri Nasser 33, 51)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 10,000.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22

Panama City – UNCAF Nations Cup, plm rnd, 1st leg
PANAMA 2 (Pino 67, Medina 89)
NICARAGUA 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 1,500. **Ref:** Mejias (CR)
Panama: Tunon – Lozada, Delgado, Clarke (Bartley 46), Phillips, Medina, Salinas, Rodriguez, Sanchez, Chiari (Pino 54), Piggott.
Nicaragua: Chamorro (Jaimar 72) – Molina, H Gonzalez, Cruz, N Gonzalez, Perez, Rostran, Villavicencio, Sanchez, Gaston, Bendana.

Libreville – intl friendly
GABON 1 (Bekogho 17)
SIERRA LEONE 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Diramba (Gab)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24

Tokyo – intl friendly
JAPAN 2 (Nanami 27, Miura 54)
SAUDI ARABIA 1 (Al-Turki 89 pen)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 37,576.
Japan: Maekawa – Ihara, Akita, Yanagimoto, Soma – Hashiratani, Morishima, Nanami, Honda – Fukuda, K Miura.
S Arabia: Mohammed Al-Deayea – Mohammed Al-Jahani, Mohammed Al-Khilaiwi, Ahmed Madani, Ahmed Eesa – Fuad Amin, Saeed Owairan, Obied Al-Dossary, Khalid Al-Temawi – Sami Al-Jaber, Fahad Mehalel.

OTHER MATCHES

Sep 30 (*Seoul*): S Korea 1 Boca Juniors 2.
Oct 10 (*Stavanger*): Norway U21 2 England U21 2.
Oct 10 (*Stockholm*): Sweden B 1 Scotland B 2.

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP

GROUP 1: Slovakia 1 Israel 1, Poland 3 Romania 3, France 5 Azerbaijan 0, Slovakia 3 Poland 1, Israel 4 Azerbaijan 0, Romania 0 France 0.

Table

France	9	5	3	1	22	3	18
Romania	9	4	4	1	16	7	16
Poland	9	4	2	3	16	17	14
Israel	9	3	3	3	12	8	12
Slovakia	9	3	2	4	8	9	11
Azerbaijan	9	1	0	8	4	34	3

Remaining matches: *Nov 14:* Azerbaijan v Poland, Slovakia v Romania, *Nov 15:* France v Israel.

GROUP 2: Belgium 2 Denmark 2, Spain 3 Cyprus 1, Macedonia 3 Armenia 2, Armenia 0 Belgium 3, Cyprus 3 Macedonia 2, Denmark 5 Spain 1.

Table

Spain	9	6	2	1	23	10	20
Belgium	9	5	3	1	25	9	18
Denmark	9	5	1	3	27	15	16
Macedonia	9	4	0	5	16	23	12
Cyprus	9	3	0	6	9	24	9
Armenia	9	1	0	8	8	27	3

Remaining matches: *Nov 14:* Denmark v Armenia, Spain v Macedonia, *Nov 15:* Cyprus v Belgium.

GROUP 3: Turkey 2 Hungary 1, Sweden 1 Switzerland 0, Switzerland 2 Hungary 3, Iceland 2 Turkey 3.

TABLE

Hungary	7	5	1	1	11	7	16
Turkey	7	4	2	1	12	6	14
Sweden	7	4	1	2	9	3	13
Switzerland	8	2	1	5	9	16	7
Iceland	7	0	1	6	6	15	1

Remaining matches: *Nov 10:* Hungary v Iceland, *Nov 14:* Sweden v Turkey.

GROUP 4: Croatia 1 Estonia 0, Lithuania 3 Ukraine 3, Italy 1 Slovenia 0. Croatia 2 Italy 2, Lithuania 3 Estonia 0, Slovenia 0 Ukraine 5.

TABLE

Ukraine	9	6	2	1	23	10	20
Italy	8	5	2	1	20	7	17
Croatia	9	5	2	2	11	8	17
Slovenia	9	5	1	3	15	10	16
Lithuania	9	2	1	6	14	16	7
Estonia	10	0	0	10	5	37	0

Remaining matches: *Nov 10:* Italy v Ukraine, *Nov 14:* Slovenia v Croatia, *Nov 16:* Italy v Lithuania.

GROUP 5: Czech Republic 1 Norway 2, Holland 3 Byelorussia 0, Luxembourg 0 Malta 0, Byelorussia 0 Czech Republic 3, Luxembourg 0 Byelorussia 5, Malta 0 Holland 2.

TABLE

Czech Rep	8	6	2	0	28	7	20
Norway	8	6	0	2	29	10	18
Byelorussia	8	5	0	3	19	12	15
Holland	8	4	2	2	18	8	14
Malta	8	1	0	7	3	24	3
Luxembourg	8	0	0	8	0	36	0

Remaining matches: *Nov 11:* Malta v Byelorussia; *Nov 14:* Holland v Norway, Czech Republic v Luxembourg.

GROUP 6: Portugal 2 England 0, Austria 1 Rep Ireland 0, Austria 0 Portugal 1.

TABLE

Portugal	7	5	2	0	11	1	17
England	7	5	1	1	11	3	16
Ireland	7	2	2	3	6	6	8
Austria	7	2	1	4	4	9	7
Latvia	8	0	2	6	1	14	2

Remaining matches: *Nov 14:* England v Austria, Portugal v Ireland.

GROUP 7: Germany 3 Georgia 0, Wales 1 Moldova 0, Georgia 1 Bulgaria 2, Germany 3 Moldova 1.

TABLE

Bulgaria	7	5	2	0	11	3	17
Germany	7	5	1	1	15	5	16
Wales	8	3	1	4	11	13	10
Moldova	7	1	2	4	3	10	5
Georgia	7	1	0	6	6	15	3

Remaining matches: *Nov 14:* Germany v Bulgaria, Moldova v Georgia.

GROUP 8: San Marino 1 Greece 3, Scotland 5 Finland 0, Russia 0 Greece 1

TABLE

Scotland	7	6	0	1	15	4	18
Finland	7	5	1	1	17	9	16
Russia	7	3	1	3	14	6	10
Greece	8	3	0	5	12	12	9
San Marino	7	0	0	7	1	28	0

Remaining matches: *Nov 14:* Scotland v San Marino, Russia v Finland.

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE – 1995-96

MATCHDAY 3

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 18

GROUP A

NANTES 3 (Ouedec 5, Pedros 55, Kosecki 74)
AALBORG 1 (Bo Andersen 46)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Vagner (Hun).
Nantes: Casagrande – Chanelet, Pignol, Decroix, Guyot, Cauet, Makelele, Pedros, Ouedec (Carotti 78), N'Doram, Kosecki (Savinaud 90).
Aalborg: Gill – Boye, Madsen (Gronkjaer 70), Jessen (Kruger 87), Thorst, Facius (Thomasberg 82), Simonsen, Pedersen, Andersen, H Rasmussen, P Rasmussen.

FC PORTO 0
PANATHINAIKOS 1 (Markos 40)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 27,500. **Ref:** Trentalange (Ita).
Porto: Vitor Baia – Joao Pinto (Folha 55), Paulinho Santos, Aloisio, Ze Carlos, Emerson, Secretario (Bino 85), Rui Barros (Jorge Couto 76), Domingos, Latapy, Drulovic.
Panathinaikos: Wandzik – Apostolakis, Ouzounidis, G H Georgiadis (Lagonikakis 90), Kalitzakis, Borelli (Kapouranis 67), Markos, G S Georgiadis, Warzycha, Alexoudis*, Donis (Kolitsidakis 82). * = *Alexoudis sent off, 35min.*

GROUP B

LEGIA WARSAW 1 (Podbrozny 25)
BLACKBURN ROVERS 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 15,000. **Ref:** Frisk (Swe).
Legia: Szczesny – Mandziejewicz, Jozwiak, Bednarz, Zielinski, Lewandowski, Pisz, Michalski, Podbrozny, Kucharski, Staniek. Booked: Zielinski.
Blackburn: Flowers – Berg, Kenna, Sherwood, Hendry, Pearce, Warhurst (Newell 81), Batty, Shearer, Sutton, Holmes.

ROSENBORG 2 (Loken 2, Brattbakk 45)
SPARTAK MOSCOW 4 (Alenichev 59, Nikiforov 66, Kechinov 75, 82)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 12,216. **Ref:** Garcia Aranda (Spa).
Rosenborg: Jamtfall – Kvarme (Heggem 46), Bragstad, Hoftun, Stensaas, Strand (Staurvik 78), Skammelsrud, Soltvedt (Iversen 66), Loken, Brattbakk, Jakobsen.
Spartak: Cherchesov – Mamedov, Nikiforov, Khlestov, Tikhonov, Onopko, Piatnitski (Alenichev 46), Kulkov, Tsymbalar, Shmarov (Kechinov 56), Yuran.

GROUP C

BORUSSIA DORTMUND 1 (Ricken 58)
STEAUA BUCHAREST 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 35,000. **Ref:** Mikkelsen (Den).
Dortmund: Klos – Sammer, Julio Cesar, Kohler, Reuter, Freund, Berger (Tretschok 89), Reinhardt, Ricken (Kutowski 88), Herrlich, Tanko (Zorc 46).
Steaua: Stelea – Dobos, Prodan, Pirvu, Panait (Rosu 86), Gilca, Filipescu (Nagy 70), A Ilie (Raducan 64), Lacatus, Vladoiu, Csik.

JUVENTUS 4 (Ravanelli 15, 76, Conte 17, Del Piero 23)
RANGERS 1 (Gough 79)
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 45 or 50,000. **Ref:** Zhuk (Bye).
Juventus: Peruzzi – Ferrara, Torricelli, Vierchowod, Porrini (Carrera 78), Sousa, Di Livio (Marocchi 65), Deschamps, Ravanelli, Del Piero, Conte (Tacchinardi 83).
Rangers: Goram – Wright (Brown 46), Robertson, Gough, Moore, Petric, Durie, McCall (Murray 69), McCoist, Salenko, Cleland*. * = *Cleland sent off, 55min.*

GROUP D

AJAX 3 (Kluivert 10, 68, George 87)
GRASSHOPPER 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 41,000. **Ref:** Porumboiu (Rom).
Ajax: Van der Sar – Reiziger, Blind (Scholten 73), F de Boer, Bogarde, R de Boer (Kanu 62), George, Davids, Kluivert, Litmanen, Overmars.
Grasshopper: Zuberbuhler – Gamperle, Vogel, Gren, Vega, Koller, Geiger, Lombardo, Magnin, Viscaal, Rzasa (Sermeter 73).

REAL MADRID 6 (Raul 24, 25, 84, Zamorano 34, 47, Hierro 54)
FERENCVAROS 1 (Kopunovics 63)
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 55,000. **Ref:** Ouzounov (Bul).
Madrid: Buyo – Quique Sanchez, Soler, Hierro (Nando 63), Sanchis, Milla, Raul, Michel, Zamorano, Laudrup (Esnaider 58), Amavisca (Luis Enrique 58).
Ferencvaros: Hajdu – Milovanovics, Telek, Keller, Szucs, Kuntics (Z Nagy 68), O Vincze (Albert 46), Kopounovics, Nyilas, Kecskes, Lisztes (Hrutka 56).

MATCHDAY 1 REPLAY

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 25

GROUP A

AALBORG 2 (Andersen 7, Madsen 89)
PANATHINAIKOS 1 (Warzycha 42)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 6,100. **Ref:** Krug (Ger).
Aalborg: Gill – Simonsen, Boye, Thorst, Jessen, Thomasberg, Pedersen (Madsen 23), H Rasmussen, Facius, Andersen, P Rasmussen (Gronkjaer 84).
Panathinaikos: Wandzik – Kapouranis, Ouzounidis, Kalitzakis*, G S Georgiadis, Apostolakis, G H Georgiadis, Borelli (Maragos 77), Donis, Markos, Warzycha. * = *Kalitzakis sent off, 55min.*

MATCHDAY 4

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 1

GROUP A

AALBORG 0
NANTES 2 (Guyot 10, Ouedec 68)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 6,800. **Ref:** Elleray (Eng).
Aalborg: Gill – Simonsen, *Boye, Thorst, Thomasberg, Madsen (Hjermitslav 82), Jessen, H Rasmussen, Facius (Thomsen 71), Andersen (Groenkjaer 46), P Rasmussen. *Boye sent off, 65min.
Nantes: Casagrande – Carotti, Cauet (Pignol 75), Decroix, Guyot, Ferri, Makelele (Chanelet 58), Pedros, Ouedec (Peyrelade 86), N'Doram, Kosecki.

PANATHINAIKOS 0
FC PORTO 0
Att: 63,000. **Ref:** Goethals (Bel).
Panathinaikos: Wandzik – Apostolakis, Ouzounidis, G H Georgiadis, Borelli (Kapouranis 67), Kolitsidakis, G S Georgiadis, Markos, Warzycha (Lagonikakis 90), Manangos, Donis.
Porto: Victor Baia – Secretario, Rui Jorge, Aloisio, Jorge Costa, Emerson, Edmilson, Rui Barros (Bino 79), Domingos, Paulinho Santos, Drulovic (Folha 86).

TABLE

Nantes	4	2	1	1	6	4	7
Panathinaikos	4	2	1	1	5	3	7
FC Porto	4	1	2	1	2	1	5
Aalborg	4	1	0	3	3	8	3

GROUP B

BLACKBURN ROVERS 0
LEGIA WARSAW 0
Att: 20,897. **Ref:** Meier (Swz).
Blackburn: Flowers – Berg, Kenna, Sherwood, Hendry, Pearce, Ripley, Batty, Shearer, Newell (Sutton 74), Warhurst (Le Saux 62).
Legia: Szczesny – Mandziejewicz, Jozwiak (Mosor 66), Bednarz, Jalocha, Lewandowski, Pisz, Michalski, Podbrozny (Kucharski 46), Staniek, Wieszczycki.

SPARTAK MOSCOW 4 (Shmarov 2, Yuran 9, Tsimbalar 19, Tikhonov 80)
ROSENBORG 1 (Loken 90)
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 42,500. **Ref:** Krondl (Cz).
Spartak: Cherchesov – Khlestov, Nikiforov, Tsymbalar (Kechinov 46), Ananko, Yuran, Onopko, Kulkov, Shmarov, Alenichev (Titov 85), Tikhonov.
Rosenborg: By Rise – Loken, Hoftun, Bragstad, Stensaas, Strand (Heggem 61), Staurvik, Skammelsrud, Iversen, Brattbakk, Jakobsen.

TABLE

Spartak Moscow	4	4	0	0	11	4	12
Legia Warsaw	4	2	1	1	5	3	7
Rosenborg	4	1	0	3	6	12	3
Blackburn Rovers	4	0	1	3	1	4	1

GROUP C

RANGERS 0
JUVENTUS 4 (Del Piero 16, Torricelli 65, Ravanelli 88, Marocchi 90)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 42,523. **Ref:** Ahmet Cakar (Tur).
Rangers: Goram (Thomson 46) – Wright (Durrant 25), Bollan, Gough, Brown, Petric, Ferguson, Gascoigne, Miller (McCoist 70), Salenko, McCall.
Juventus: Peruzzi – Torricelli, Pessotto, Carrera, Porrini (Ferrara 79), Sousa, Di Livio, Tacchinardi (Marocchi 74), Vialli (Ravanelli 70), Del Piero, Conte.

STEAUA BUCUREST 0
BORUSSIA DORTMUND 0
Att: 14,500. **Ref:** Piraux (Bel).
Steaua: Stelea – Csik, Pirvu, Dobos, Panait, Prodan, Lacatus (L Rosu 59), Bucur, Vladoiu, A Ilie (Nagy 79), Filipescu (Raducan 66).
Dortmund: Klos – Kohler, Kree, Freund, Julio Cesar, Sammer, Berger (K Reinhardt 87), Zorc, Ricken, Moller, Sosa (Tretschok 74).

TABLE

Juventus	4	4	0	0	14	2	12
Borussia Dortmund	4	1	2	1	4	5	5
Steaua Bucurest	4	1	1	2	1	4	4
Rangers FC	4	0	1	3	3	11	1

GROUP D

FERENCVAROS 1 (Albert 36)
REAL MADRID 1 (Raul 73)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 22,000. **Ref:** Durkin (Eng).
Ferencvaros: Hajdu – Hrutka, Telek, Keller, Kuznyecov, Kuntics (O Vincze 90), Paling, Albert (Z Nagy 46), Nyilas, Lisztes, Kopinovics (Zavadszky 79).
Madrid: Buyo – Quique Sanchez, Soler, Alkorta, Sanchis, Redondo, Raul, Michel (Luis Enrique 61), Esnaider, M Laudrup, Amavisca.

GRASSHOPPER 0
AJAX 0
Att: 20,100. **Ref:** Levnikov (Rus).
Grasshopper: Foletti – Haas, Vega, Gren, Thueler, Lombardo, Koller, Geiger, Comisetti (Sermeter 81), Ali Ibrahim (Viscaal 87), Magnin (De Napoli 67).
Ajax: Van der Sar – Reiziger, Blind, F de Boer, Bogarde, R de Boer, Davids, Litmanen (Kanu 59), George, Kluivert, Overmars (Reuser 74).

TABLE

Ajax	4	3	1	0	9	1	10
Real Madrid	4	2	1	1	9	3	7
Ferencvaros	4	1	1	2	6	12	4
Grasshopper	4	0	1	3	0	7	1

CUP-WINNERS CUP

2ND RND, 1ST LEG

THURSDAY OCTOBER 19

BORUSSIA MONCHENGLADBACH 4 (Dahlin 51, 90, Pflipsen 55, Wynhoff 67)
AEK ATHENS 1 (Maladenis 79)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 21,000.
Borussia MG: Kamps – Kastenmaier (Hoersen 76), Andersson, Klinkert, Neun (Huiberts 87), Schneider, Wynhoff, Pflipsen, Frontzeck, Dahlin, Effenberg.
AEK: Atmatsidis – Koutoulas, Kostenoglou, Vlachos, Borbokis (Saravakos 61), Sabanadjovic, Kezbaja (Kopitsis 76), Maladenis, Savevski, Kasapis, Batista (Tsartas 67).

EVERTON 0
FEYENOORD 0
Att: 27,526. **Ref:** H-J Weber (Ger).
Everton: Southall – Jackson (Barlow 81), Ablett, Unsworth, Short, Barrett, Stuart, Rideout, Samways, Horne, Limpar (Holmes 81).
Feyenoord: De Goey – Zwijnenberg (Heus 61), Van Gobbel, Koeman, Witschge, Maas, Boateng, Van Bronckhorst (Iwan 81), Larsson, Obiku, Blinker (Trustfull 61).

HALMSTAD 3 (Gudmundsson 7, 31, Andersson 75)
PARMA 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 9,306 *(at Gama Ullevi, Gothenburg).*

MOSCOW DYNAMO 1 (Yuri Kuznetsov 59)
HRADEC KRALOVE 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 15 or 9,000.

PARIS SG 1 (Djorkaeff 76)
CELTIC 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 30,010. **Ref:** M Benko (Aut).
Paris SG: Lama – Cobos, Colleter, Mahe, Le Guen, Djorkaeff (Dieng 87), Bravo, Guerin, Fournier, Rai (Nouma 82), Loko (Llacer 80).
Celtic: Marshall, Boyd, McKinlay, Vata, Hughes, Grant, O'Donnell (Donnelly 69), McStay, Van Hooydonk, Thom, Collins.

SPORTING LISBON 2 (Sa Pinto 13, Alves 25)
RAPID WIEN 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 45,000.

TRABZONSPOR 0
LA CORUNA 1 (Donato 60)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 27,500.

ZARAGOZA 2 (Aragon 28 pen, Dani 33)
CLUB BRUGGE 1 (Staelens 62)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 26,000.

1995-96 UEFA CUP

2ND RND, 1ST LEG

TUESDAY OCTOBER 17

AUXERRE 0
NOTTINGHAM FOREST 1 (Stone 23)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 20,000. **Ref:** P Collima (Ita)
Auxerre: Cool – Gorna, Silvestre, Blanc (Rabarivony 57), West, Lamouchi, Saib, Martins, Cocard, Laslandes (Guivarc'h 72), Diomede (Tasfaout 71).
Forest: Crossley – Lyttle, Pearce, Cooper, Chettle, Haaland, Bart-Williams, Gemmill, Stone, Lee (Silenzi 71), Woan.

BARCELONA 3 (Kodro 45, 66, Celades 76)
VITORIA GUIMARAES 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 91,000.

BENFICA 1 (Panduru 78)
RODA JC 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 35,000.

BORDEAUX 2 (Histilloles 48, Witschge 90 pen)
ROTOR VOLOGOGRAD 1 (Huard og 40)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 10,000.

BRONDBY 0
LIVERPOOL 0
Att: 37,648. **Ref:** Uilenberg (Hol).
Brondby: Krogh – Colding, Eggen, P Nielsen, Risager, Daugaard (Bagger 83), A Nielsen, Jensen (Bjur 70), Moller (Thogersen 46), Sand, Vilfort.
Liverpool: James – Jones, Scales, Wright, Babb, Harkness, McManaman, Redknapp, Barnes, Rush, Fowler (Thomas 83).

CHORNOMORETS ODESSA 0
LENS 0
Att: 35,000
LEEDS UNITED 3 (Speed 5, Palmer 48, McAllister 72)
PSV EINDHOVEN 5 (Eykelkamp 11, Vink 35, Jonk 39, Nilis 83, 88)
HT: 1-3. **Att:** 24,846. **Ref:** A J Nieto (Spa).
Leeds: Lukic – Kelly, Dorigo (Beesley 78), Palmer, Pemberton, Wetherall, Whelan (Wallace 79), Yeboah, Deane, McAllister, Speed (Couzens 26).
PSV: Waterreus – Van der Weerden, Faber, Valckx, Numan, Linskens, Vink (Pahlplatz 71), Jonk, Eykelkamp, Nilis, Cocu.

LUGANO 1 (Shalimov 83)
SLAVIA PRAGUE 2 (Vagner 19, Penicka 25)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 8,000.

SOUTH AMERICAN SUPER CUP RESULTS . . . SOUTH

LYON 2 (Devaux 15, Deplace 69)
LAZIO 1 (Winter 22)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 35,000.

RAITH ROVERS 0
BAYERN MUNICH 2 (Klinsmann 6, 73)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 12,818 *(at Easter Road, Edinburgh)*. **Ref:** R Harrel (Fra).
Raith: Thomson – Kirkwood, Broddle, Coyle, Dennis, Sinclair, McInally (Rougier 75), Cameron, Graham, Lennon, Dair (Crawford 74).
Bayern: Khan – Hamann, Ziege, Kreuzer, Helmer, Strunz, Scholl (Papin 63) Herzog (Nerlinger 63), Klinsmann, Sforza, Zickler.

ROMA 4 (Vanderhaege og 6, Van der Hoorn og 51, Balbo 69, Totti 77)
AALST 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 19,272.

SEVILLA 1 (Juanito Rodriguez 45)
OLYMPIAKOS 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 24,000.

SPARTA PRAGUE 4 (Frydek 20, Nedved 45pen, 57, Budka 58)
ZIMBRAU CHISINAU 3 (Suharev 56, Testimitanu 62, 90 pen)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 8,147.

STRASBOURG 0
MILAN 1 (Simone 80)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 35,000.

WERDER BREMEN 5 (Shtanyuk og 53, Basler 64, 83, Hobsch 73, Bode 88)
MINSK DINAMO 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 15,000.

KAISERSLAUTERN 1 (Koch 46)
REAL BETIS 3 (Alfonso 45, 73, A. Trujillo 54)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 17,500 *(played Oct 18)*

2ND RND, 2ND LEG

TUESDAY OCT 31

AALST 0
ROMA 0
Att: 11,000.
Roma 4-0 on agg

BAYERN MUNICH 2 (Klinsmann 52, Babbel 64)
RAITH ROVERS 1 (Herzog og 43)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 15,000.
Bayern 4-1 on agg

LAZIO 0
LYON 2 (Maurice 21, Assadourian 57)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 50,000.
Lyon 4-1 on agg

LIVERPOOL 0
BRONDBY 1 (Eggen 78)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 35,878.
Brondby 1-0 on agg

MINSK DINAMO 2 (Khatskevich 76, Shukanov 90)
WERDER BREMEN 1 (Bode 26)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 14,000.
Bremen 6-2 on agg

NOTTINGHAM FOREST 0
AUXERRE 0
Att: 28,063.
Forest 1-0 on agg

OLYMPIAKOS 2 (Sapanis 72, Juskowiak 92 pen)
SEVILLE 1 (Suker 110)
HT: 0-0. **90min:** 1-0. **Att:** 35,000.
Seville on away goals, 2-2 agg

PSV EINDHOVEN 3 (Cocu 11, 74, Pemberton og 43)
LEEDS UNITED 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 28,500.
PSV 8-3 on agg

RODA JC KERKRADE 2 (Hesp 60, Trost 72)
BENFICA 2 (Hassan Nader 85, 90)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 20,000.
Benfica 3-2 on agg

ROTOR VOLGOGRAD 0
BORDEAUX 1 (Bancarel 82)
HT: 0-0. Att 20,000.
Bordeaux 3-1 on agg

SLAVIA PRAGUE 1 (Smicer 62)
LUGANO 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 8,821.
Slavia 3-1 on agg

VITORIA GUIMARAES 0
BARCELONA 4 (Kodro 18, Oscar Garcia 61, Celades 66, Sergi 76)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 10,000.
Barcelona 7-0 on agg

ZIMBRU CHISINAU 0
SPARTA PRAGUE 2 (Koller 45, Vonasek 64)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 21,000.
Sparta 6-3 on agg

REAL BETIS 1 (Jarni 55)
KAISERSLAUTERN 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 30,000. *(Nov 1)*
Real Betis 4-1 on agg

LENS 4 (Meyrieu 14, Vairelles 19, Dehu 25, Foe 77)
CHORNOMORETS ODESSA 0
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 40,000. *(Nov 1)*
Lens 4-0 on agg

SUPER CUP

FIRST ROUND – ROUND-ROBIN

SEPT 27 – ASUNCION (PARAGUAY)

OLIMPIA (Par) 1 (G. Gonzalez)
SAO PAULO (Bra) 2 (Caio, Edenilson)
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** A Rodas (Ecu).
Olimpia: Arbiza, Caceres, Fernandez, Chamas, Suarez (Caniza), Vidal Sanabria, Ostolaza, Monzon, G Gonzalez, Baez (M Sanabria), Campos (Fattecha).
Sao Paulo: Zetti, Rogerio, Bordon, Gilmar, Andre, Donizetti, Cerezo, Juninho, Edenilson (Ronaldo Luis), Caio, Claudio (Pedro Luis).

OCT 10 – BUENOS AIRES (ARGENTINA)

BOCA JUNIORS (Arg) 2 (Marcico pen, Pico)
SAO PAULO (Bra) 3 (Amarildo 2, Caio)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** E Dluzniewski (Uru). **Att:** 5,000.
Boca: Navarro Montoya, Vivas, Gamboa, Medero, Arruabarrena, Saldana, Giunta, Pico, Marcico, Cabanas, Tchami.
Sao Paulo: Zetti, Rogerio, Gilmar, Bordon, Ronaldo Luis, Alemao, Donizetti, Plinha (Sierra 75), Denilson, Caio, Amarildo.

FIRST ROUND – 2ND LEG

SEPT 27 – BUENOS AIRES (ARGENTINA)

RIVER PLATE (Arg) 2 (Francescoli, Ortega)
PENAROL (Uru) 3 (Magallanes, Romero, Bengoechea)
HT: 2-3. **Ref:** A Pereira (Bra)
River Plate: Burgos, Rivarola, C Ayala, Gomez, Altamirano, Almeyda (H Diaz 86), Astrada, Cedres (Amato 63), Garcia Aspe (Gallardo 45), Ortega, Francescoli.
Penarol: Flores, Tais, Aguirregaray, Rotundo, Lima, G de los Santos (Gutierrez 84), J de los Santos, Baltierra, Bengoechea, Romero (Pacheco 81), Magallanes (M Rodriguez 74).
agg: 5-5, River won 7-6 on pens

OCT 3 – UBERLANDIA (BRAZIL)

FLAMENGO (Bra) 3 (Pellegrino og, Edmundo, Romario)
VELEZ SARSFIELD (Arg) 0
HT: 1-0.
Flamengo: Paulo Cesar, Aguinaldo (Fabiano), Claudio, Ronaldao, Lira (Pingo), Marcio Costa, Djair, Nelio, Savio (Rodrigo), Edmundo, Romario.
Velez: Chilavert, Zandona, Trotta, Pellegrino, Cardozo, Basualdo, Gomez, Hussain (Pandolfi), Bassedas (Sanchez), Fernandez (Flores), Asad.
Flamengo won 6-2 on agg

OCT 3 – MEDELLIN (COLOMBIA)

NACIONAL (Col) 2 (Aristizabal 2)
ARGENTINOS JUNIORS (Arg) 1 (Bennett)
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** A Guevara (Ecu).
Nacional: Higuita (Tuberquia 46), Herrera, Foronda, Marulanda, Martinez, Gutierrez, Serna, A Garcia (Angel 59), Mosquera (Morantes 77), Matamba, Aristizabal.
Argentinos Juniors: Maltagliatti, Batista, Schiavi, Sanabria, Asencio, O Acosta (S Lopez 46), Gancedo, Cardinal, Mas, Zermatten (Primo 66), Ferreyra (Bennett 46).
Nacional won 5-2 on agg

OCT 4 – SANTOS (BRAZIL)

SANTOS (Bra) 2 (Giovanni 2)
INDEPENDIENTE (Arg) 2 (Mazzoni, Domizzi)
HT: 1-1.
Santos: Edinho, Marquinhos, Jean, Narciso, Marcos Adriano, Gallo, Robert, Giovanni, Jamelli, Camanducaia, Wellington.
Independiente: Mondragon, Clausen, Rotchen, Arzeno, Jara, Cagna, Dorta, Domizzi, Garnero, Alvez, Mazzoni.
agg: 3-3, Independiente won 3-2 on pens

OCT 5 – BUENOS AIRES (ARGENTINA)

RACING CLUB (Arg) 3 (Lopez, Dalgado, Carrario)
GREMIO (Bra) 3 (Jardel 2, Viqueira og)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** P Pena (Bol)
Racing: Gonzalez, Viqueira (Michelini 76), Costas, Ubeda, Zanetti, Facciuto, Chacoma, Pompei, De Vicente (Carrario 46), Delgado, C Lopez.
Gremio: Danrlei, Wagner (Emerson 46), Rivarola, Luciano, Roger, Gelson, Goiano, Carlos Miguel (Carlos Alberto 78), Arilson, Pablo Nunes, Jardel.
Gremio won 6-4 on agg

ARGENTINA

NATIONAL A DIVISION

WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 2

COLON DE SANTA FE 1 (Risso 75)
NEWELL'S OLD BOYS 1 (Escudero 40)

ARGENTINOS JUNIORS 0
LANUS 3 (Peinado 44, Ibagaza 60, Di Carlo 79)

BELGRANO CORDOBA 0
PLATENSE 0

ROSARIO CENTRAL 2 (Pobersnik 46, Veron og 50)
DEPORTIVO ESPANOL 1 (Castillo pen 15)

RIVER PLATE 2 (Amato 57, Silvani 74)
ESTUDIANTES DE LA PLATA 2 (Ferreyra 61, Calderon 77)

INDEPENDIENTE 2 (Cagna 15, Burruchaga 28)
RACING CLUB 2 (C. Lopez 48, Delgado 91)

SAN LORENZO 1 (Netto pen 18)
FC OESTE 1 (Lorenzo 63)

VELEZ SARSFIELD 1 (Trotta pen 19)
HURACAN 2 (Barrios pen 84, Marini 89)

BANFIELD 2 (Graf 15, Alvarenga pen 52)
GIMNASIA DE JUJUY 2 (Trimarchi 18, F. Gonzalez 65)

WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 9

INDEPENDIENTE 0
GIMNASIA Y ESGRIMA 0

NEWELL'S OLD BOYS 3 (Aquino 28, 67, 74)
ARGENTINOS JUNIORS 2 (Bennet 23, 85)

LANUS 1 (Morales 60)
SAN LORENZO 3 (Arbarella 44, 77, Rivadero 45)

GIMNASIA DE JUJUY 4 (Piaggio 23, Trimarchi 38, 64, Barella 48)
ROSARIO CENTRAL 2 (Sanchez 82, Carbonari 88)

BOCA JUNIORS 1 (Scotto 91)
COLON DE SANTA FE 0

PLATENSE 1 (Coria 76)
VELEZ SARSFIELD 2 (Asad 10, Flores 44)

FC OESTE 4 (Sanchez 12, Dure 14, 86 pen, Sava 36)
BELGRANO CORDOBA 2 (Spallina 21 pen, 90)

DEPORTIVO ESPANOL 0
RIVER PLATE 1 (Francescoli 17)

ESTUDIANTES DE LA PLATA 2 (Calderon 27, 90 pen)
RACING CLUB 3 (Capria 48 pen, 65, Lopez 56)

HURACAN 2 (Guerra 11, Pineda 88)
BANFIELD 0

WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 17

VELEZ SARSFIELD 1 (Asad 18)
FC OESTE 0

ROSARIO CENTRAL 0
HURACAN 0

BANFIELD 0
PLATENSE 1 (Fuertes 9)

RIVER PLATE 1 (Francescoli 87 pen)
GIMNASIA DE JUJUY 0

RACING CLUB 0
DEPORTIVO ESPANOL 1 (Castillo 74)

BELGRANO CORDOBA 1 (Catteneo 32)
LANUS 1 (Loza 42)

COLON SANTA FE 4 (Saralegui 43, 89, Vidal Gongalez 63, Muller 90)
GIMNASIA Y ESGRIMA 1 (Sanguinetti 88)

ARGENTINOS JUNIORS 0
BOCA JUNIORS 1 (Maradona 70)

ESTUDIANTES 1 (Arzeno 65 og)
INDEPENDIENTE 2 (Arzeno 15, Ramirez 31)

SAN LORENZO 5 (Biaggio 2, 17, 61, Gonzalez 35, Ortega Sanchez 88)
NEWELL'S OLD BOYS 2 (Aquino 22, Gabrich 75)

WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 23

MIDWEEK

GIMNASIA DE JUJUY 1 (Navarro montoya 53 og)
BOCA JUNIORS 2 (Scotto 44, Peralta 65)

WEEK END

INDEPENDIENTE 1 (Arzeno 57)
COLON SANTA FE 2 (Saralegui 35 pen, 69)

GIMNASIA DE JUJUY 1 (Piagoio 61)
RACING CLUB 2 (Lopez 24, Pompe 34)

GIMNASIA Y ESGRIMA 2 (Lagorio 45, F. Fernandez 52)
ARGENTINOS JUNIORS 1 (Bennett 22)

BOCA JUNIORS 0
SAN LORENZO 0

NEWELL'S OLD BOYS 2 (Gabrich 59, Mendoza 60)
BELGRANO CORDOBA 1 (Tosello 25)

LANUS 0
VELEZ SARSFIELD 0

FC OESTE 3 (Vidal 29, 64, Mandrini 30)
BANFIELD 3 (Alvarenga 36 pen, Alegre 43, 73)

PLATENSE 1 (Fuertes 30)
ROSARIO CENTRAL 1 (Gordillo 57)

HURACAN 2 (Marini 11, Barrios 19 pen)
RIVER PLATE 0

DEPORTIVO ESPANOL 1 (Ojeda 78)
ESTUDIANTES 0

NATIONAL A DIVISION – OPENING CHAMPIONSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
San Lorenzo	11	6	3	2	24	13	21
Racing Club	11	6	2	3	17	12	20
Boca Juniors	10	5	5	0	11	6	20
River Plate	11	5	5	1	12	8	20
Velez Sarsfield	11	6	2	3	13	10	20
Lanus	11	4	5	2	12	9	17
Gimnasia Jujuy	11	5	2	4	18	17	17
Platense	11	4	3	4	11	11	15
Huracan	11	4	3	4	12	16	15
Newell's OB	10	3	5	2	15	16	14
Gimnasia Esgrima	10	3	5	2	9	10	14
Colon Santa Fe	11	3	4	4	11	9	13
Dep. Espanol	11	3	5	3	9	9	13
FC Oeste	11	2	6	3	15	14	12
Rosario Central	11	2	6	3	10	13	12
Independiente	10	1	7	2	9	10	10
Argentinos Jun.	11	2	3	6	10	14	9
Banfield	11	1	5	5	11	16	8
Estudiantes	11	0	5	6	8	14	5
Belgrano	11	0	5	6	6	16	5

***Bottom relegation averages** (points obtained over three seasons): Gimnasia Jujuy 0,897; Dep. Espanol 0,895; FC Oeste & Argentinos Juniors 0,885; Belgrano Cordoba 0,873; Estudiantes 0,500. (Bottom two relegated at end of closing championship).*

BRAZIL

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP – 1ST STAGE

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 24

WEEKEND

BOTAFOGO 3 FLAMENGO 1; VITORIA 0 PALMEIRAS 0; PARANA 1 CRUZEIRO 2; PAYSANDU 3 CORINTHIANS 3; GUARANI 0 JUVENTUDE 1; GREMIO 0 BRAGANTINO 2; SAO PAULO 1 SPORT RECIFE 0; INTERNACIONAL 1 FLUMINENSE 0; SANTOS 2 UNIAO SAO JOAO 2; GOIAS 0 ATLETICO MINEIRO 0; CRICIUMA 1 VASCO DA GAMA 0; PORTUGUESA 3 BAHIA 2.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY OCTOBER 1

MIDWEEK

VITORIA 1 FLAMENGO 0; GREMIO 2 CRUZEIRO 0; CRICIUMA 0 GOIAS 2; ATLETICO MINEIRO 0 INTERNACIONAL 1.

WEEKEND

PARANA 2 FLAMENGO 0; CORINTHIANS 0 JUVENTUDE 1; CRUZEIRO 5 BOTAFOGO 3; VITORIA 0 BRAGANTINO 1; PAYSANDU 2 GUARANI 2; PALMEIRAS 3 GREMIO 0; CRICIUMA 0 SAN PAULO 1; VASCO DA GAMA 2 ATLETICO MINEIRO 3; FLUMINENSE 1 GOIAS 0; INTERNACIONAL 0 PORTUGUESA 1; SANTOS 3 BAHIA 2.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY OCTOBER 8

MIDWEEK

CRUZEIRO 2 GUARANI 0; PARANA 1 PAYSANDU 0; SAO PAULO 1 PORTUGUESA 0

WEEKEND

GREMIO 2 CORINTHIANS 1; FLAMENGO 0 CRUZEIRO 2; JUVENTUDE 1 PALMEIRAS 1; BOTAFOGO 0 PARANA 0; BRAGANTINO 2 PAYSANDU 0; GUARANI 3 VITORIA 1; ATLETICO MINEIRO 0 FLUMINENSE 0; SAO PAULO 1 INTERNACIONAL 1; GOIAS 4 VASCO DA GAMA 0; PORTUGUESA 2 CRICIUMA 1; SPORT RECIFE 1 SANTOS 2; BAHIA 1 UNIAO SAO JOAO 0.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP – 2ND STAGE

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY OCTOBER 15

MIDWEEK

UNIAO SAO JOAO 1 GUARANI 2; GOIAS 2 PARANA 1; CRICIUMA 4 PAYSANDU 1; SAO PAULO 0 BOTAFOGO 2; PORTUGUESA 0 CORINTHIANS 1; VASCO DA GAMA 0 PALMEIRAS 1; SANTOS 4 BRAGANTINO 4; ATLETICO MINEIRO 2 CRUZEIRO 0; BAHIA 1 GREMIO 0; SPORT RECIFE 3 JUVENTUDE 1; INTERNACIONAL 3 VITORIA 1.

WEEKEND

GUARANI 4 SAO PAULO 2; PARANA 1 FLUMINENSE 1; BOTAFOGO 0 INTERNACIONAL 0; FLAMENGO 1 CRICIUMA 0; CORINTHIANS 3 ATLETICO MINEIRO 1; BRAGANTINO 3 PORTUGUESA 0; CRUZEIRO 2 VASCO DA GAMA 3; GREMIO 2 UNIAO SAO JOAO 0; JUVENTUDE 1 SANTOS 1; VITORIA 0 SPORT RECIFE 2; PAYSANDU 2 BAHIA 2.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY OCTOBER 22

WEEKEND

ATLETICO MINEIRO 1 BRAGANTINO 1; BAHIA 2 FLAMENGO 2; CRICIUMA 1 CORINTHIANS 1; FLUMINENSE 2 VITORIA 1; GOIAS 3 GUARANI 1; INTERNACIONAL 2 PALMEIRAS 0; PORTUGUESA 3 GREMIO 2; SANTOS 2 CRUZEIRO 1; SPORT RECIFE 1 BOTAFOGO 2; UNIAO SAO JOAO 2 PARANA 1; VASCO DA GAMA 6 PAYSANDU 1.

FIRST STAGE – FINAL STANDINGS

GROUP A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cruzeiro	11	8	1	2	23	11	25
Palmeiras	11	7	2	2	19	8	23
Bragantino	11	6	3	2	15	10	21
Parana	11	5	4	2	13	7	19
Botafogo	11	5	3	3	20	16	18
Juventude	11	2	6	3	5	9	12
Guarani	11	3	3	5	13	18	12
Gremio	11	3	3	5	12	18	12
Vitoria	11	2	5	4	10	16	11
Paysandu	11	2	4	5	14	18	10
Corinthians	11	2	2	7	13	18	8
Flamengo	11	2	2	7	9	17	8
GROUP B							
Fluminense	11	6	3	2	10	4	21
Inter PA	11	6	3	2	15	10	21
Sao Paulo	11	5	4	2	9	5	19
Santos	11	6	1	4	19	17	19
Portuguesa	11	5	3	3	16	14	18
Goias	11	4	4	3	15	9	16
Criciuma	11	4	3	4	10	8	15
Bahia	11	4	2	5	13	16	14
Sport Recife	11	3	3	5	9	11	12
At. Mineiro	11	2	5	4	8	12	11
Vasco da Gama	11	3	2	6	14	20	11
Sao Joao	11	1	1	9	7	19	4

PERU

National decentralised championship – regular tournament final

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sporting Cristal	30	21	5	4	76	27	68
Alianza Lima	30	22	1	7	53	20	67
Univ. de Deportes	30	19	6	5	54	26	63
Cienciano	30	16	5	9	40	32	53
Dep. Ucesa	30	13	11	6	51	22	50
FBC Melgar	30	14	8	9	41	39	47
Dep. Municipal	30	11	8	11	43	39	41
Dep. San Agustin	30	11	7	12	38	42	40
Sport Boys	30	10	9	11	31	31	39
Alianza Atletico	30	10	5	15	36	53	35
Aurich Cahana	30	7	11	12	39	46	32
Deposta Lima	30	7	11	12	30	44	32
Union Minas	30	9	5	16	36	52	32
Atletico Torino	30	6	7	17	17	46	25
Union Huaral	30	5	8	17	27	50	23
Leon de Huanuco	30	2	9	19	14	57	15

Top eight play final round for the title (carrying on points obtained so far)

URUGUAY

First Division – closing championship

With one match to go: 1) Nacional, Penarol 24pts; 3) Rampla Juniors 21; 4) River Plate 17; 5) Liverpool, Danubio 14; 7) Defensor Sporting 13; 8) Central Espanol, Basanez, Cerro, Progreso, Wanderers 10; 13) Sudamerica 9.

ECUADOR

First Division (2nd stage) final standings

GROUP 1: 1) Nacional, Liga Univ. Quito, Barcelona 18pts; 4) Green Cross 15; 5) Dep. Quito 8; 6) Delfin 4.

GROUP 2: 1) Emelec 19; 2) Aucas, Espoli 17; 4) Portoviejo 12; 5) Olmedo 11; 6) 9 de Octubre 2. (Top three of each group qualify for final round).

COLOMBIA

First Division – opening championship

GROUP A: 1) Dep. Cali 20pts; 2) Tolima 19; 3) Millonarios 17; 4) Bucaramanga 15; 5) Union Magdalena 14; 6) Caldas 12; 7) Quindio 11; 8) Indep. Medellin 5.

GROUP B: 1) Nacional 19; 2) America 18; 3) Indep. Santa Fe, Atletico Junior 15; 5) Envigado, Huila 11; 7) Cortulua, Pereira 6.

CHILE

First Division

After 23 games (7 to go): 1) Univ. de Chile 49pts; 2) Univ. Catolica 43; 3) Colo Colo 41; 4) Cobreloa 39; 5) Temuco 38; 6) O'Higgins, Coquimbo 33; 8) Union Espanola 32; 9) Osorno 30; 10) Concepcion 27; 11) Palestino 26; 12) Antofagasta 25; 13) Atacama 24; 14) Huachipato 23; 15) Everton 21; 16) La Serena 19.

PARAGUAY

First Division (2nd round)

After 8 games (4 to go): 1) Olimpia 15pts; 2) Cerro Porteno 14; 3) Guarani 13; 4) Humaita, Sol de America 12; 6) Sportivo Luqueno, Colegiales 9; 8) Libertad, Sp. Colombia 9; 10) San Lorenzo 8; 11) Presidente Hayes, Nacional 7; 13) Cerro Cora 1.

BOLIVIA

National Championship (2nd stage)

GROUP A: 1) Bolivar 22pts; 2) Guabira 21; 3) Wilsterman 15; 4) Real Santa Cruz 14; 5) Stormers 10; 6) Blooming 8.

GROUP B: 1) Destroyers 19; 2) San Jose, Oriente Petrolero 18; 4) Indep. Petrolero 14; 5) The Strongest 13; 6) Ciclon 5.

MEXICO

First Division

GROUP 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
UA Nuevo Leon	9	2	7	0	12	9	13
Veracruz	9	4	1	4	12	10	13
Toluca	9	3	2	4	10	13	11
Santos	9	2	4	3	9	11	10
Guadalajara	9	2	4	3	8	12	10
GROUP 2							
FC America	9	4	4	1	14	6	16
At. Celaya	9	2	5	2	10	12	11
Puebla	9	1	3	5	8	16	6
Atlante	9	1	2	6	6	15	6
Morelia	9	1	2	6	10	20	5
GROUP 3							
Leon	9	5	3	1	20	11	18
Cruz Azul	9	3	5	1	14	8	14
UNAM	9	3	4	2	14	10	13
Monterrey	9	2	2	5	13	15	8
GROUP 4							
Necaxa	9	4	4	1	17	12	16
Atlas	9	4	4	1	18	15	16
UA Guadalajara	9	1	8	0	13	10	11
Neza	9	3	2	4	18	20	11

HONDURAS

First Division

1) Montagua 11pts; 2) Platense, Victoria 9; 4) Marathon 8; 5) Real Espana, Real Maya, Vida, Olimpia 7; 9) Independiente 5; 10) Broncos 2.

COSTA RICA

First Division

1) Saprissa 19pts; 2) Puntarenas 16; 3) Alajuelense 13; 4) Cartago 11; 5) Carmelita 10; 6) Perez Zeledon 9; 7) Bel;en, Turrialba 8; 9) Ramonese, San Carlos 7; 11) Herediano 4; 12) Guanacaste 1.

EL SALVADOR

First Division

1) FAS 18pts; 2) LA Firpo, Aguila 13; 4) Limeno 10; 5) ADET 9; 6) Tiburones 8; 7) Dragon 7; 8) El Roble, Marte 6; 10) Alianza 5.

GUATEMALA

First Division

1) Comunicaciones 17pts; 2) Amatitlan 15; 3) Municipal 14; 4) Aurora 13; 5) Escuintla 12; 6) Coban Imperial 11; 7) Sacachiapas, Suchitepequez 9; 9) Xelaju, Mictlan 8; Tally Juca 7; 12) Dep. Izabal 2.

1995 AFRICAN CHAMPIONS CUP

QUARTER-FINALS

(1st legs: Sep 8-10; 2nd legs: Sep 22-24)

ESPERANCE 0
ISMAILIA 1 (Magudi Al-Sayed 78)

ISMAILIA 0
ESPERANCE 0
Ismailia won 1-0 on aggregate

GOLDFIELDS 0
ASEC ABIDJAN 2 (Akeem Ogulade 14, Florent Baloki 32)

ASEC ABIDJAN 0
GOLDFIELDS 0
ASEC won 2-0 on aggregate

MBILINGA 2 (Adewele 10, Jonas Ogandaga 89)
ORLANDO PIRATES 1 (Marks Maponyane)

ORLANDO PIRATES 3
MBILINGA 0
Pirates won 4-2 on aggregate

EXPRESS 0
DYNAMOS 1 (Moses Chunga 75)

DYNAMOS 1 (Moses Chunga 59)
EXPRESS 2 (Joseph Zazak 1, Joe Mutyaba 60)
2-2 on agg, Express won on away goals rule

SEMI-FINALS

(1st legs: Oct 13-15; 2nd legs: Oct 27-29)

ISMAILIA V ASEC ABIDJAN
ORLANDO PIRATES V EXPRESS

1995 AFRICAN CUP-WINNERS CUP

QUARTER-FINALS

(1st legs: Sep 8-10; 2nd legs: Sep 22-24):

MAXAQUENE *walkover* v **AS MARSA** *withdrew*

DARING CLUB MOTEMA PEMBE 1 (Munkunku Diena 25)
JULIUS BERGER 0

JULIUS BERGER 2 (Taiwo Oloyede 37 pen, Ikponmwosa Omoregie 65)
DARING CLUB MOTEMA PEMBE 0
Julius Berger won 2-1 on agg

BLACKPOOL 2 (Collins Kabote 51, 74)
YOUNG AFRICANS 1 (James Chembue 73)

YOUNG AFRICANS 1 (Mohamed Hussein 83)
BLACKPOOL 2 (Vincent Chigenga 41, Simbarashe Nyakudziwnaza 60 pen)
Blackpool won 4-2 on agg

JS KABYLIE 3 (Hadj Adlane 36, 51, Maliendine Meftah 38)
HEARTS OF OAK 1 (Ali Abdelmouni 4)

HEARTS OF OAK 2 (Thomas Quaye 19 pen, 26 pen)
JS KABYLIE 1 (Maliendine Meftah 55)
JS Kabylie won 4-3 on agg

SEMI-FINALS

(1st legs: Oct 13-15; 2nd legs: Oct 27-29)

MAXAQUENE V JULIUS BERGER
BLACKPOOL V JS KABYLIE

1995 (CAF) CUP

QUARTER-FINALS

(1st legs: Oct 8-10; 2nd legs: Oct 22-24)

DJOLIBA 0
INTER CLUB 2 (Edson Mimba 29, Serge-Alain Pady 66)

INTER CLUB 1
DJOLIBA 2
Inter Club win 3-2 on agg

ASANTE KOTOKO 2 (Joe Acheampong 71, Joe Debbrah 75)
KALOUM STARS 2 (Bondoula Monmadouba 2, Abdoul Karim Sylla 42)

KALOUM STARS 0
ASANTE KOTOKO 0
2-2 on agg, Stars won on away goals rule

ETOILE SAHEL 3 (Zoubier Beya 11, 76, Guaiss Godbani 71)
FERROVIARIO MAPUTO 0

FERROVIARIO MAPUTO 0
ETOILE SAHEL 3 (Boukadida 55, 65, Raouan 71)
Etoile Sahel won 6-0 on agg

MALINDI 0 AGAZA
OMNISPORT 0

AGAZA OMNISPORT 0
MALINDI 2 (Edibily Lunyamila 30, Bakala Djouma 37)
Malindi won 2-0 on agg

SEMI-FINALS

(1st legs: Oct 13-15; 2nd legs: Oct 27-29)

INTER CLUB V KALOUM STARS
ETOILE SAHEL V MALINDI

JAPAN

J.LEAGUE – NICOS SERIES

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23

YOKOHAMA MARINOS 0
SHIMIZU S PULSE 1 (Dias 46 pen). Att: 12,764.

URAWA RED DIAMONDS 0
KASHIWA REYSOL 2 (Hashiratani 32, 42). Att: 51,580.

JEF UNITED ICHIHARA 3 (Niimura 51, 66, Jo 62)
VERDY KAWASAKI 1 (Kitazawa 24). Att: 15,234.

GAMBA OSAKA 5 (Yamaguchi 13, Aleinikov 19, Isogai 40 pen, Morioka 79, Kitamura 84)
SANFRECCE HIROSHIMA 2 (Van Loen 5, Hasek 38). Att:9,440.

NAGOYA GRAMPUS EIGHT 2 (Durix 21, Nakanishi 63)
KASHIMA ANTLERS 1 (Masuda 68). Att: 22,028.

JUBILO IWATA 1 (Sampaio og 78)
YOKOHAMA FLUGELS 2 (Evair 2, Miura 95). Att: 16,832.

BELLMARE HIRATSUKA 1 (Narahashi 93)
CEREZO OSAKA 0. Att: 11,426.

SATURDAY AUGUST 26

KASHIWA REYSOL 3 (Natsuka og 16, Sugano 33, Careca 89)
BELLMARE HIRATSUKA 0. Att: 15,865.

SANFRECCE HIROSHIMA 0
URAWA RED DIAMONDS 1 (Fukuda 92). Att: 14,545.

KASHIMA ANTLERS 4 (Hasegawa 27, 61, 74, Masuda80)
GAMBA OSAKA 0. Att: 16,110.

CEREZO OSAKA 0
YOKOHAMA MARINOS 2 (Jinno 62, Medina Bello 83). Att: 12,848.

SHIMIZU S PULSE 0
JUILO IWATA 2 (Nakayama 35, 86). Att: 20,295.

YOKOHAMA FLUGELS 0
JEF UNITED ICHIHARA1 (Maslovar 72). Att: 12,421.

VERDY KAWASAKI 3 (Alcindo 37, Takeda 70, Bismarck 89)
NAGOYA GRAMPUS EIGHT 2 (Ogura 12, Moriyama 85). Att: 15,503.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

JEF UNITED ICHIHARA 0
SHIMIZU S PULSE 1 (Dias89). Att: 35,040.

KASHIMA ANTLERS 1 (Hashimoto 71)
VERDY KAWASAKI 5 (Takeda 35, Miura 42, 55, 64, Kitazawa 83). Att: 16,628.

NAGOYA GRAMPUS EIGHT 2 (Stojkovic 22, Durix 92)
YOKOHAMA FLUGELS 1 (Harada 26). Att: 22,024.

GAMBA OSAKA 1 (Gillhaus 56)
URAWA RED DIAMONDS 4 (Bein 42, 84, Fukuda 53, 89). Att: 15,181.

BELLMARE HIRATSUKA 4 (Morig og 18, Noguchi 73, 77, Takemura 85)
SANFRECCE HIROSHIMA 0. Att: 12,354.

JUBILO IWATA 2 (Masanori Suzuki 49, Katsuya 74)
CEREZO OSAKA 1 (Morishima 26). Att: 16,506.

YOKOHAMA MARINOS 2 (Bisconti 5, 73)
KASHIWA REYSOL 3 (Hashiratani 28, Careca 57, Tanada 82). Att: 12,123.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

YOKOHAMA FLUGELS 1 (Evair 76)
KASHIMA ANTLERS 2 (Kurosaki 9, Jorginho 37). Att: 41,239.

URAWA RED DIAMONDS 3 (Fukuda 2, 77 pen, Toninho 66)
BELLMARE HIRATSUKA 2 (Noguchi 11, Betinho 17). Att: 20,417.

VERDY KAWASAKI 2 (Bismarck 61, Miura 81)
GAMBA OSAKA 0. Att: 16,455.

SHIMIZU S PULSE 2 (Massaro 14, Ito 89)
NAGOYA GRAMPUS EIGHT 0. Att: 17,005.

CEREZO OSAKA 3 (Valdes 35, 60, Inagaki 52)
JEF UNITED ICHIHARA 4 (Rufer 69 pen, 75, Jo 85, Yoshikazu Goto 89). Att: 8,347.

KASHIWA REYSOL 2 (Watanabe 75, Nelsinho 89)
JUBILO IWATA 4 (Fujita 34, Nakayama 54, Kudo 71, Fukunishi 83). Att: 11,846.

SANFRECCE HIROSHIMA 0
YOKOHAMA MARINOS 0. Att: 8,171. (Marinos win 4-1 on pens)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

KASHIWA REYSOL 1 (Sugano 89)
NAGOYA GRAMPUS EIGHT 2 (Nelsinho og 31, Torres 70). Att: 14,152.

URAWA RED DIAMONDS 1 (Toninho 69)
JUBILO IWATA 0. Att: 22,150.

SHIMIZU S PULSE 1 (Dias15)
VERDY KAWASAKI 1 (Kitazawa 73). Att: 43,502
Shimizu won 9-8 on pens

BELLMARE HIRATSUKA 2 (Omoto 13, Betinho 20 pen)
YOKOHAMA MARINOS 3 (Bisconti 49 pen, 55, Masaharu Suzuki 95). Att: 15,118.

CEREZO OSAKA 1 (Marqinhos 89 pen)
KASHIMA ANTLERS 0. Att: 9,056.

SANFRECCE HIROSHIMA 0
JEF UNITED ICHIHARA 2 (Maslovar 60, Niimura 70). Att: 11,227.

YOKOHAMA FLUGELS 2 (Karashima og 12, Zinho 109)
GAMBA OSAKA 1 (Isogai 24). Att: 11,188.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

YOKOHAMA MARINOS 3 (Bisconti 68, 77, Medina Bello 74)
URAWA RED DIAMONDS 1 (Toninho 38). Att: 13,205.

VERDY KAWASAKI 4 (Kitazawa 8, Miura 41, 52, 87)
YOKOHAMA FLUGELS 1 (Zinho 6). Att: 43,279.

KASHIMA ANTLERS 2 (Masuda 87, 87 (same minute)
SHIMIZU S PULSE 3 (Massaro 17, Dias 84, 106). Att: 16.093.

JUBILO IWATA 1 (Dunga 89)
SANFRECCE HIROSHIMA 2 (Tanaka og 7, Noh 20). Att: 15,669.

NAYOGA GRAMPUS EIGHT 0
CEREZO OSAKA 1 (Iijima og 89). Att: 21,485.

JEF UNITED ICHIHARA 1 (Taro Goto 80)
KASHIWA REYSOL 3 (Tanada 8, 53, Careca67). Att: 10,439.

GAMBA OSAKA 3 (Isogai 29, Aleinikov 37, Gillhaus 108)
BELLMARE HIRATSUKA 2 (Takada 43, Natsuka 59). Att: 7,563.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

KASHIMA ANTLERS 4 (Kurosaki 34, Leonardo 26, 43 pen, Mazinho 79)
KASHIWA REYSOL 3 (Tanada 11, Nozomu Kato 70 pen, Yokoyama 81). Att: 35,822.

JEF UNITED ICHIHARA 1 (Jo 116)
URAWA RED DIAMONDS 0. Att: 14,543.

NAGOYA GRAMPUS EIGHT 1 (Passi 37)
SANFRECCE HIROSHIMA 0. Att: 19,735.

YOKOHAMA FLUGELS 0
SHIMIZU S PULSE 3 (Mukojima 24, Dias 34, 50). Att: 11,591.

GAMBA OSAKA 1 (Isogai 28)
YOKOHAMA MARINOS 2 (Yamada 39, Tsveiba og 41). Att: 15,639.

JUBILO IWATA 5 (Schillaci 20, 85, Fujita 34, Hattori 61 pen, Takada og 89)
BELLMARE HIRATSUKA 2 (Nakata 38, Betinho 78). Att: 15,672.

VERDY KAWASAKI 2 (Bismarck 4, Hashiratani 98)
CEREZO OSAKA 1 (Valdes 49). Att: 18,786.

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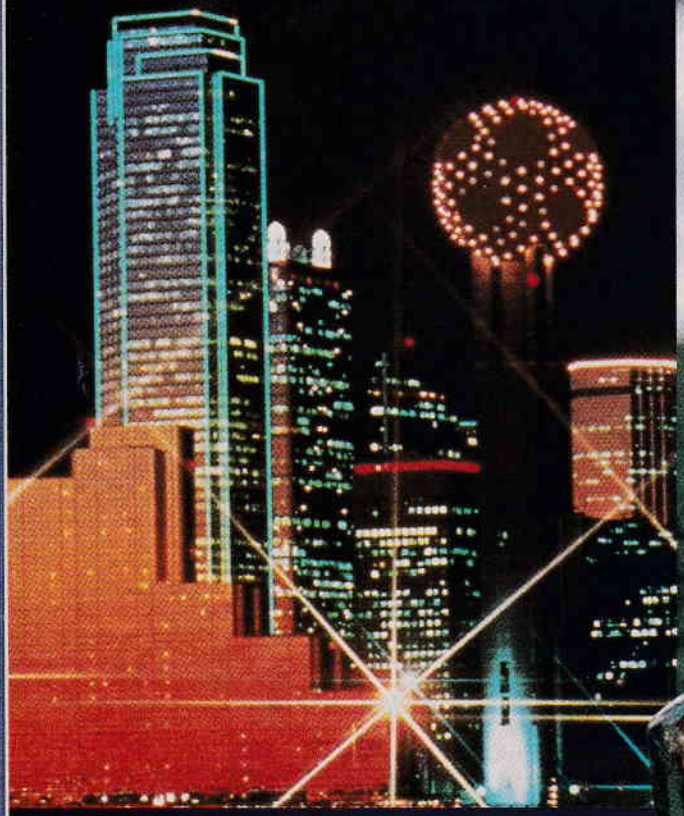

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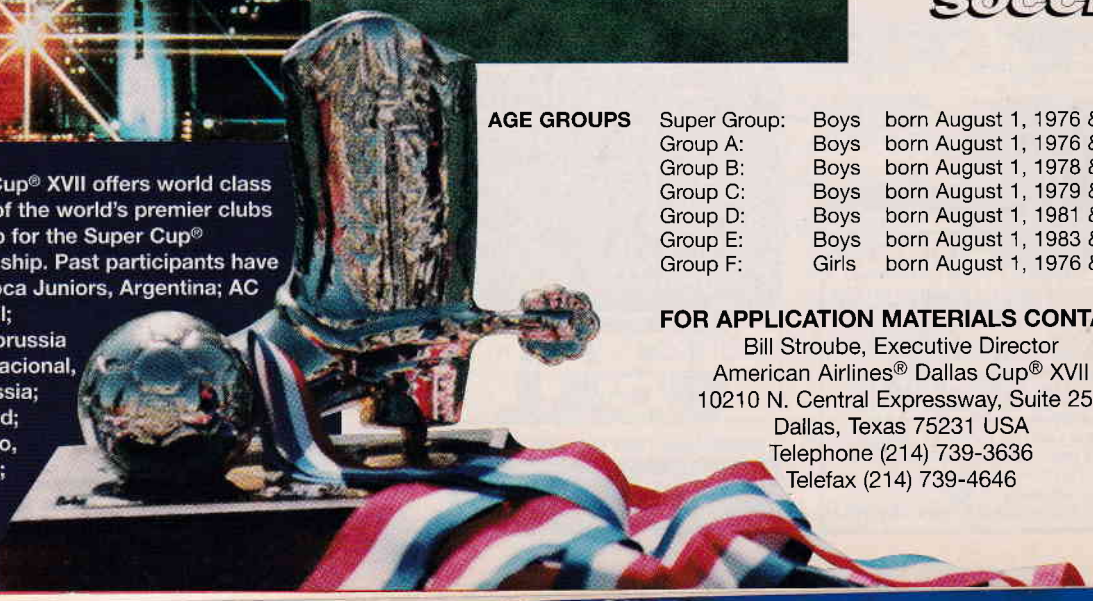

AGE GROUPS

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Group B:	Boys	born August 1, 1978 & later
Group C:	Boys	born August 1, 1979 & later
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WORLD SOCCER

Letters to the Editor

We want to hear your views and opinions. If you want to comment on any aspect of the world game, or reply to an opinion already expressed on these pages, send a letter, preferably typed, to Keir Radnedge at WORLD SOCCER magazine, IPC Magazines, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS. Or send us a fax on 0171-261 7474

DUTCH DISCOURAGED

I AM a big Holland fan and I have a few worries about our national team. How can a side with at least eight players from the European champions Ajax continue to struggle against below-par teams? Defeats by the Czech Republic and Belarus must have put Guus Hiddink's future in doubt. Did we waste the best team in years with Van Basten, Rijkaard, Gullit, Koeman and Van Breukelen? Is Cruyff the answer? If so, then what will it take to persuade him?
GREG LINK, Fairfax, Va, USA

It's an oddly consistent feature that national teams who lean heavily on a club block do not always achieve the results these same players put together for their clubs. Guus Hiddink has not had long to get his act together. Holland were well-deserving European Championship winners in 1988 but by the 1990 World Cup cracks in team morale were showing. Rinus Michels, winning manager in Euro '88, had retired and the players failed to agree over the choice of new manager. They did not like Thys Libregts – who steered them through the qualifiers – and they were not enamoured of Leo Beenhakker, who managed them in the finals. Whether Johan Cruyff would fancy the challenge, I doubt. Any Dutch manager gets a bumpy ride from his own players whether with club or country – as the recent abrupt departure of Wim Van Hanegem from Feyenoord showed.

FAREWELL MARCO

I WAS incredulous at the lack of coverage of Marco Van Basten's retirement in the press. Admittedly, his fortunes had wavered of late because of injury. But, in his prime, Van Basten presented a strong case for being judged the best centre-forward ever. Anyone who saw his solo demolition of Gothenburg in the first Champions League will know what I mean. It's a sad indictment of our priorities as supporters when the end of Van Basten's career goes almost unnoticed while Diego Maradona's every move continues to be scrutinised simply because his playing days have been dogged by controversy. Much of the credibility of our game would be restored if only paragons of talent and maturity such as Van Basten were less marginalised. They are football's real heroes
MICHAEL GALVAN, Canterbury, Kent

The sad truth about Van Basten's retirement was that he had, in effect, dropped out of sight because of his ankle problems after Milan's ill-fated 1993 Champions Cup Final defeat by Marseille. He then slipped into that unfortunate limbo in which he was still considered an active player – but was not playing. While he remained under contract to Milan, he – and his fans – could believe in a miracle. But Milan's medical and coaching staff were under no illusions. It is more than a year ago now that they opened the negotiations which were ultimately concluded with George Weah's arrival as Van Basten's successor. Milan knew . . . it was just a question of time before the inevitable confirmation. As for the comparison with Maradona I agree wholeheartedly about Van Basten's exemplary

comportment: a great credit to world football. I also have to say that Maradona is one of the very greatest natural talents ever to step on to a football pitch. A far greater player in terms of natural ability – but certainly not behaviour.

KICK AND RUSH

FREE-KICKS within about 35 metres of goal are fairly dramatic events now. My suggestion is to outlaw the wall. Clearly this would increase the number of scoring opportunities in a game without changing the flow. There's no wall for the penalty kick so why not eliminate it for free-kicks also? What do you think?
M DAY, Victoria, Canada

Sorry, I don't see the wall being banned. How do you define a wall? Is it two players minimum or three? How close or far apart are they allowed to stand? Who decides the distance from goal – particularly at an angle? We have players who can bend free-kicks at goal or thunder them through a gap in a wall. Also, coaches are much more imaginative in free-kick routines. I am getting tired of change. A period of consolidation is called for.

TV RIGHTS AND WRONGS

SEPP BLATTER is changing the game to suit American and television interests with time-outs and kick-ins. Time-outs may be intended to give players a rest but it will nearly always be used as a tactic in itself to destroy the opposition's momentum. Coaches support it themselves only to involve themselves more in the game. The solution to tired players near the ends of tournaments is to play fewer games and have longer breaks between matches
CAMERON PEAKE, Turramurra, NSW, Australia

Absolutely right. The great attraction of football is the constant ebb and flow of the action. The lawmakers must be cautious in introducing change. The idea of allowing a goalkick to be taken from either side of the six-yard box was intended to help speed up the game. In stead it has handed keepers a method of legally slowing a game and wasting time. I'm sure time-outs have their place - but not in this sport.

THE MONEY GAME

FRANZ BECKENBAUER once said that European giants such as Germany, Italy, Spain, etc should not have to waste time against the weak teams in qualifying competitions for World Cups and European Championships. As we know, there have been some minnow teams who have occasionally surprised everyone (Israel, Faroe Islands, Iceland, etc) and others who contribute nothing. What should UEFA decide?
P TORBEN, Edgbaston, Birmingham

It's easy to understand Beckenbauer's point. In a game which is so busy, it would make sense to reduce the group fixture numbers in national team events. But who would drop out into a pre-qualifying round which will deny them financial rights?

FRIEND OR FOE?

WHY is Josip Weber of Anderlecht allowed to play for Belgium after representing Croatia three times in friendly matches against Australia in 1992?
SHAHAN PETREOSSIAN, N Brunswick

Quite simply, the international qualifying rules are somewhat chaotic. But a player is not bound to a country when he played 'only' in a friendly international.

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Harry right, Terry wrong

"IF YOU can't stand the heat in the dressing room," says Terry Venables, "get out of the kitchen." And if you can't stand the heat in the kitchen, get out of the dressing room, I suppose. President Harry Truman, I imagine, would have appreciated the interesting gloss placed on his favourite dictum.

After the Norwegian bore, and his predictably Panglossian ("Everything is for the best in the best of all possible worlds") response, Venables was savaged in certain tabloids. Bryan Robson, a white knight, came riding boldly and gallantly to the rescue.

He need not have bothered. Such excesses are counter-productive; though they do not usually begin so early in an England manager's reign. In most cases an England coach gets a pretty easy ride, early on. There's a cosy relationship with the football press, overall; even a slight whiff of PR attitudes.

Then, when things go wrong, when there is disaster in a major competition, either in failing to qualify or in flopping when we do, the knives are out and there is abundant blood on the carpet. Or the turf.

This is a pattern which can be extremely vexing to critics like myself; as it was in the Bobby Robson regime. I had been unimpressed by his stewardship (in passing, I wish him the speediest and fullest possible recovery from his wretched illness) for some time. But when England faltered in the finals of the 1988 European Championship, and thereafter, tabloid attacks became ferocious.

The result, almost inevitably, was that Robson gained new public sympathy and all critics were lumped in together, whether or not they were trying to do a rational job rather than a demolition. If you stigmatised the manager, you were, by definition, being violently unfair to him.

'Venables should have been England's manager long ago, when he was at his peak'

Venables, in my opinion, should have been made England's manager long ago, when he was at his peak as a coach. It didn't happen because the old fogies of the International Committee and their ilk were scared of him. Later Venables was rushed in with indecent haste.

His tactics do not work, his selections are often perverse, his treatment of Matthew Le Tissier unfair and ultimately self-destructive. But he is with us at least until the end of the 1996 European Championship, and we have to make the best of it while hoping, without much conviction, that HE will. What would be ludicrous in the extreme would be to do what Venables plainly wants the FA to do; extend his contract for another three years, to take him and England on to the 1998 World Cup. There have been suggestions that Bert 'The Inert' Millichip, whose own writ runs out with the Euro finals, would be prepared to do this. Some parting gift!

Venables has told us that he was offered the managership of Inter, name your own price, and turned it down. I don't in the least doubt his word. The question is – given the fact that Inter deny it and no Italian journalistic source can confirm it – who made the offer?

I can see it now. A bronzed beach attendant, a passionate fan of Inter, strolls along the beach, sees Terry recumbent in his deck chair, and accosts him,"Hey, Meester Venables: you wanna manage Inter? I get you what you like." Terry, half asleep in the sun, spurns the offer at once, but takes it at face value.

On the other hand, if it happened another way, a kosher way, may we please have chapter and verse?

Terry Venables . . . 'offered the managership at Inter'

THE CHAMPION'S CHOICE

A PUZZLE of pronunciation solved; thanks to the doughty John Champion, now a TV as well as a radio commentator.

Broadcasting on *Radio 5* at the QPR v Newcastle match, he pronounced the name of QPR's two-goal scorer, Daniele Dichio, "DE-*KEE*-OH". Dichio had told him so, himself.

That evening, on *Match of the Day*, both Desmond Lynam and Tony Gubba, pronounced it: "*DISH*-EE-OH".

That could not be right, because the CH is hard in Italian, soft in Spanish.

But I wasn't right either – and I speak Italian. I thought it should be "*DICK*-EE-OH". That Sunday's *Corriere Dello Sport* cleared up the problem, giving his name as Di Chio. Now we know. And *Bravissimo, Campione*! Otherwise . . . Champion.

P.S. No marks at all to a blessedly anonymous BBC sports hack who went to Middlesbrough to see Juninho presented to the fans, and talked about them speaking . . . BRAZILIAN! Ever heard of Portuguese? They were there a long time.

AN UNOBSERVANT VIEW OF BRADY'S BUNCH

HOW LONG, I wonder, before St Andrews is re-named Saint Karren's? I ask after reading a long, lazy eulogy, an interview masquerading as a profile, by one Miranda Sawyer, in *The Observer* magazine; its subject the chief executive of Birmingham City FC, Karren Brady.

Militant feminism may have at last passed its peak, but it survives lustily in certain pockets, and this appears to be one of them. I'm sorry to be singling out *The Observer*, again, for any kind of criticism. It's a paper for which I have long had great affection, for which I wrote in the late fifties, and which I hope and trust will quickly improve its dismal circulation.

But fair's fair.

No self-respecting, large-circulation, American magazine would ever have published such a piece of idle gush. It does no favours to Miss Brady who, though she may be something of a controversial figure – which you'd never guess in reading Miss Sawyer – is plainly a young woman of unusual drive, energy and organising ability, who has achieved a great deal, in initially difficult circumstances, since she was surprisingly appointed to her post at Birmingham by the owner, David Sullivan, a well-known and highly successful publisher of risque magazines.

Even Andrew Longmore, though in a far shorter profile piece which appeared few days later in *The Times*, wrote of the fascinating battle of wills between Miss Brady and the ultra streetwise, ultra salty, Barry Fry, idiosyncratic manager of Birmingham City, and one of the game's defiant mavericks.

La Sawyer didn't mention it. Yet to have talked to Fry about Brady, to Brady about Fry, would have given her shallow piece a new and significant dimension. And what of Paul Peschisolido her husband – Stoke's striker? Not interviewed.

No mention, either, of Brady's bitter battles with the local media. Her attempt to raise money from the *Birmingham Mail*, on the grounds that, as a Birmingham paper, it indirectly made money out of the club.

No mention of the campaign she allegedly mounted against the Mail when it refused to toe the line, suggesting the ostracism by City would weaken its economic standing. Again, both sides of the vexed question could and should have been heard.

The phenomenon of a very young girl running a major club – most vigorously – in a largely misogynist world is a truly intriguing one. It deserved rather more than schoolgirlish adulation, one-sided eulogy; in a word, the kind of treatment which elicited scepticism rather than admiration.

I look forward, now, to a profile of Fry which gives *his* side of the story.

Idealy with interventions by Miss Brady.

Karren Brady *(below)* . . . 'schoolgirlish adoration'; Daniel Dichio *(left)* . . . name of two halves

Soccer Cities JOHANNESBURG

Mark Gleeson on the colourful history of the game in South Africa's largest city, which plays host to the African Nations Cup in the New Year

Jo'burg giants ... fans of township team Kaizer Chiefs

VIOLENT crime in recent years has made Johannesburg the murder capital of the world. Football provides a rare sanctuary from the tense and turbulent atmosphere of Africa's economic centre.

The spotlight will soon fall on South African football when the country stages the 1996 African Nations Cup, with the Final to be played at the spanking 85,000 capacity Soccer City stadium, halfway between Johannesburg and Soweto.

The greater Johannesburg area, comprising several dormitory suburban cities and the great urban sprawl of Soweto, is host to six of the country's 18 First Division teams, including the two most popular sides, Kaizer Chiefs and Orlando Pirates.

Both are ostensibly Soweto-based teams with their roots in the dusty streets and run-down stadiums of the giant black township, but have long since moved to more ostentatious surroundings. Pirates are among the oldest clubs in South Africa, dating back to 1937 and named after a captivating Errol Flynn movie, where he played a swashbuckling buccaneer and made a big impression on youngsters at Orlando Boys Club.

They played their games at the Orlando Stadium but now move around the city, using several stadiums. Black clubs have long been used to migration. In the 1940s and 1950s they played in several leagues in the same season – Saturday, Sunday and midweek – with little in the way of formal structures.

Clubs such as Pirates also 'freelanced', playing challenge matches against noteworthy opposition and splitting the gate equally with heavy side bets on the outcome of the game.

By the mid-1960s Pirates and near neighbours Moroka Swallows had emerged as the biggest teams in the country, or at least in the black areas. The rules of Apartheid did not allow any contest with the then thriving all-white league.

Chiefs can claim a more bourgeois heritage, born in 1970 when striker Kaizer Motaung returned from a successful campaign in the North American Soccer League with Atlanta Chiefs. Motaung, one of South Africa's finest footballing products, gathered several of his Pirates team-mates to play friendly matches as the Kaizer XI. Within a year the team broke away from the Pirates and entered the League themselves.

Since then, the 'Amakhosi' have held centre stage in South African football with more than 40 League and Cup trophies and the consistent upper hand on the Pirates until last year, when the Buccaneers won their first title for 20 years.

The acrimonious spilt still has overtones today, more than 25 years later. Motaung's once all-powerful position in the National Soccer League has been usurped by Pirates' boss Ivan Khoza – and the fact that no love is lost between the pair is glaringly obvious.

'Soccer has long been the passionate heart of the city and a bridge across the racial divide'

Free-spending Khoza has also transformed Pirates from a scruffy outfit beset with internal administrative wrangling to a glamour club challenging for African honours and with an almost limitless budget to snap up top talent in the country.

Chiefs have also long since left their township home, playing for years at the Ellis Park rugby stadium (site of the 1995 Rugby Union World Cup Final) and then alternating between the Rand Stadium in the south of the city and the massive Soccer City complex, nestled between Soweto and Johannesburg's city centre.

Swallows, the other member of the Soweto big three, survive precariously in the First Division and alternate between their traditional base in Meadowlands, Soweto, and Ellis Park.

Swallows' early success was in part credited to gangs of Bosotho migrants who roamed the townships in the 1950s and called themselves the 'Russians'. Beating the Birds was something akin to risking life and limb.

Whites-only soccer had its glory days in the 1960s and 1970s until racial integration in 1977. Clubs such as Highlands Park, Lusitano, Jewish Guild, Southern Suburbs and Rangers represented the ethnic mix of the city but today only Wits University survive from that era.

Rangers were the oldest professional team in the country, formed in 1895 by Geordies and Scots, who decided on the name of the club and its colours by the toss of a coin. The Scots won and got to call the club Rangers, but the team wore the kit of Newcastle United. They won their only title in 1975, but were relegated three seasons later and quickly faded into obscurity.

Other Johannesburg teams are Jomo Cosmos, owned and coached by Jomo Sono, once of New York Cosmos, and Mamelodi Sundowns who, although ostensibly from nearby Pretoria, have their offices in Johannesburg city centre.

Soccer has long been the passionate heart of the city and a bridge across the racial divide. But as times change and new opportunities present themselves, particularly to the city's youth, so the sport has seen a decline.

That is, of course, until Chiefs and Pirates play each other again

Final showdown: Soccer City will host the 1996 Nations Cup Final

The clubs

Kaiser Chiefs
Founded: 1970
Colours: gold/black
Previous names: Kaiser XI

Orlando Pirates
Founded: 1937
Colours: black/white
Previous names: Orlando Boys Club

Moroka Swallows
Founded: 1947
Colours: maroon/white
Previous names: Corrugated FC, Big XV, Real Moroka

Jomo Cosmos
Founded: 1983
Colours: navy blue
Previous names: Highlands Park, Highlands Powerlines

Wits University
Founded: 1922
Colours: blue/white
Previous names: none

Mamelodi Sundowns
Founded: 1970
Colours: green/yellow
Previous names: none

Flashback

July 23, 1966, Wembley. England manager Alf Ramsey caused an undiplomatic incident after the World Cup quarter-final when he called Argentina's players "animals" – a description he later withdrew under heavy pressure from FIFA. Ramsey, seen preventing George Cohen from making the traditional exchange of shirts after England's 1-0 win, had been incensed by the opposition's tactics during a controversial match, in which skipper Rattin was sent off, play was held up for eight minutes, and the rest of his team had to be persuaded not to quit.

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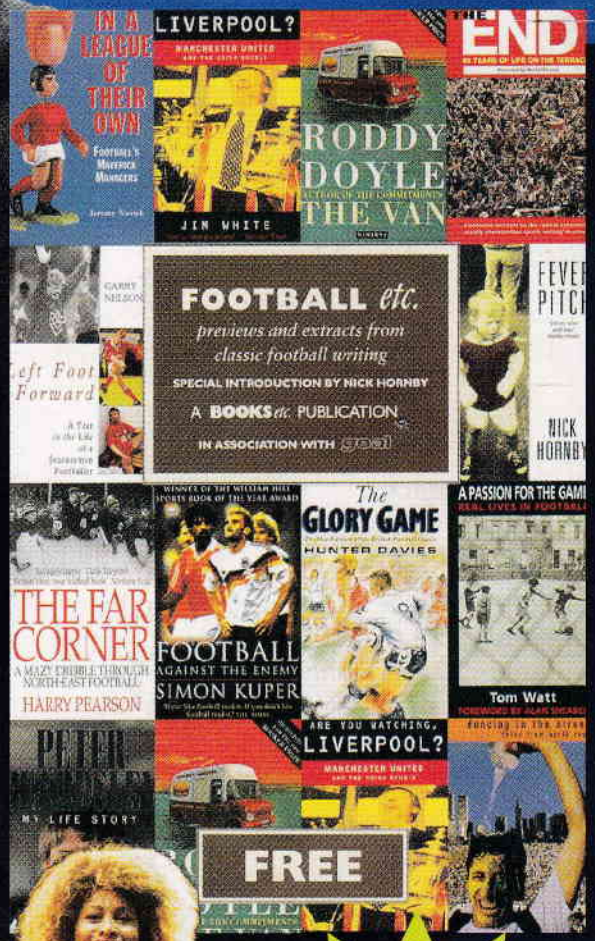

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